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BIRTHS.

On November 8, 1908, at Shanghai, Mrs. L. C. B. EMMONDSON, of a daughter.
On November 12, 1908, at Shanghai, the wife of J. E. FARRELL, of a son.
On November 12, 1908, to Mr. and Mrs. H. MEYER, a son.

MARRIAGE.

On November 7, 1908, at Shanghai, DUAT, youngest son of the late James Ferguson-Dumbarton, to HELEN PAUL, third daughter of John Shand, Renton, Scotland.

DEATH.

On November 17, at Hongkong, HORACE E. WADMAN. Aged 48 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.
ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1908.

EMPEROR EST—

(14th November.)

Behind the telegram which we are enabled to publish to-day regarding the prostration of the Emperor of China (and the exceptional circumstances surrounding that event seem to indicate that His Majesty has passed to another bourne) momentous events must assuredly lie. For years His Majesty has been under "tutelage" to the "aged Dowager Empress" who cannot last for ever, and whose dominating personality has maintained the integrity of the Middle Kingdom, and for years Emperor Kwang Hsu has been nothing

more or less than a figurehead in the Government of his realm. But on His Majesty's actions in the political intrigues of Peking, once the omnipotent factor has been removed, has depended the future of the Empire which was, and still is, another "Sick Man." Kwang Hsu is—because we do not care to use the past tense at present, although the character of the telegram we have received and the authority of the correspondent are unimpeachable—one of the reforming class who would see China regenerated. His very bigotry, in this sense, shown particularly in the troubles which preceded the Boxer rebellion, accounted for his practical superciliousness. And his physical, as well as mental, weakness sent him into what was really retirement, however honourable it may have been. It is common knowledge that the reigning monarch of the Celestial Empire has about as much to say in matters of State as we will say, the ordinary reader of these lines. At the same time he is a force, whether acting or actual, to be reckoned with in the future, a potential and poignant force, because none knows exactly what his views, reactionary or reformatory, may lead to. That he is not of the despotic temperament which conquered the great Empire of China may be accepted without argument; that he would, an he could, endeavour to make his country a power is also beyond question. All his life, however, he has been subject to the whims and wayward fancies of the Empress Dowager, and the stronger will has in all cases prevailed. Taking it for granted that unusual events have occurred in the Forbidden City, and that the Emperor has given up the ghost, what are we to expect? It is to be cataclysm and anarchy, or are we to see the rejuvenation of an Empire which has lasted and strengthened itself through the centuries? We are told that a Regent has been appointed in the person of Prince Chun, or as he is designated General Tsai Feng, who was a brother of Emperor Kwang Hsu and that a child of six years is nominated as the present sovereign. Prince Chun, as most people in Hongkong know, is a young man, of charming manners, fine presence, and some ability. But besides these incidental accomplishments, his views and outlook are unknown, although it must be recognised that he has seen more of the world than most of his peers. But, assuming that the Emperor is dead, Prince Chun as Regent is liable to be a force in the land for very many years to come, until, of course, his son, the nephew of the Emperor, has reached the age of maturity. Within the next few years very important questions will have to be settled one way or the other in China, and it is extremely doubtful whether the Regent will regard them in the light demanded by the exigencies of Western politics. That he will not be the catspaw of the Dowager—at least to the same extent as Emperor Kwang Hsu—is practically certain, since he has the advantage of enlightened ideas, health, prospective influence and active power. Exactly what his attitude is with reference to current questions is unknown, because he has shown himself to possess the affability of a Li Hung Chang, the character of a Yuan Shih-kai, and the versatility of a Wu Ting-fang. The strain of a Regency, which is, by no means, an autocracy nor a mandatory despotism, is, nevertheless, a ruthless scorner of previous character, and an unwitting, revolutionist where plain, ordinary and, shall we say, democratic views are concerned. Prince Chun, in the ordinary course of nature, may expect to be the ruler of the greatest compact nation in the world—for even the Empress Dowager cannot last for ever—and acting in such a role his words of the utmost importance to people far removed from his confines. The nations represented in Hongkong are interested in this imperial affair, for while none is anxious to acquire territory, all are determined that China shall progress, and where there is so much unanimity the inviolability of China remains secured. Events are happening in the Far East which nobody can pretend to estimate, and they are happening in such rapid succession that their importance is apt to be discounted, but China is a future Power which must be reckoned with, and under the rule of a potentate endowed with the qualities of discernment, strength and forcefulness it is impossible to suggest where her empire may end. As we have said, Prince Chun is a young man. This is the day of young men. May he be the godfather of a new China, where reform, advance in all material conditions, and understanding of the value of furthering the public weal shall prevail. As to the son, the Emperor, he must take after his father, and it is to the father that we look.

FINANCE WHICH MAY AFFECT US.

(16th November.)

Singapore is in the fortunate position of being able to regulate her own finances in relation to the other Settlements in the Straits and her foreign commerce. We in Hongkong are, on the other hand, guided by the exigencies of trade with China. At the same time Singapore has not found it easy to convert a silver currency into a gold standard of value. Many laws have had to be passed in support of the laws necessary to permit of this conversion taking effect and much acrimonious discussion has occurred. The benefit of the system, none denies, because how could they deny it in face of Sir David Barbour's statements in many Blue Books? Now there has been introduced into the Straits Legislative Council a Bill which has to do with the currency, and is called an amending enactment. The Colonial Treasurer in submitting

the Bill mentioned that the changes, since 1906, in the currency of the Colony had been considerable. Towards the close of that year, sovereigns were made legal tender by the Straits Settlements Coinage Order, and in the year following a new dollar was made a legal tender while the old one was demonetised. Under the principal Ordinance, section 4 (4) became no longer necessary, while another section, empowering the Commissioners to issue notes in exchange for gold and re-issue gold in exchange for notes, was also unnecessary. The power still remained with the Commissioners to tender any current coin that they might think fit in exchange for notes. Other sections of the new measure provided for the selling and buying of transfers to the Crown Agents. In those numbered 4, 5 and 6 of the Bill, provision was made for the old coins taken out to be replaced by new coins in the Note Guarantee Fund; for the charges on the surplus new coins; and for the balance of new coins being exchanged for the old and paid to gold standard reserve as bullion. There was a loss of \$195,000 between the exchange and face values of silver already sold, and that had already been made good by the surplus amount received from his Majesty's mint as the result of reminting. The amount expected to be available after deducting the loss on reminting was estimated at four million dollars. Provision was now made that the surplus dollars should be paid into the Note Guarantee Fund in exchange for old dollars, and the value as bullion of the old coins would be placed to the credit of the Gold Standard Reserve Fund. The old dollars were being got in by giving notes in exchange, and would form part of the Guarantee Fund. When the old dollars were demonetised on January 1—if the law was not altered—the Currency Commissioners would have to make good their value—the difference between the face and bullion value of the old dollars. The Bill also gave the Commissioners power to hold the old dollars against the Note Currency Fund, after demonetisation, until such time as the Governor might direct, or until their sale, and after the sale of the old dollars, if there was a loss, the Commissioners would also have power to wait till the sale of the Gold Standard Reserve were realised, and so make good the loss. The main object of the gold standard reserve was to cover the difference between the bullion value and the face value of the token coins. When that was attained the income of the investment portion of the note guarantee fund would again be paid into revenue after the depreciation fund had been satisfied. The Government had thought it advisable to make a departure from the recommendations of the special committee, and to make provisions to invest the whole, or any part of the gold standard reserve, accumulating at compound interest, in gold securities. The Treasurer said a change had been made by one of the contested sections so as to enable the Government to accumulate the gold reserve without dislocating the revenue or raising a loan. The matter was not very urgent, as it would be a long time before the Government could take advantage of the provisions of the section. It was not the intention of Government to deplete the banks in any way, or, he was understood to say, to gamble in exchange. One of the results that might be expected, would be to stimulate and encourage the export trade of the Colony inasmuch as smaller and less direct way than his hon. friend opposite had adopted. It was very essential that the export trade should be worked smoothly. There were two questions he would ask the hon. member who signed the rider: How do they wish to have a gold reserve to guarantee their notes and their token coins? How do they propose to build it up? Unless we are very much at sea, all this is pure financial humbug. The first reading of the Bill has been passed of course. What Mr. Baker of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and Mr. John Anderson, of Guthrie & Co., think about it we want to see. Their remarks should be instructive to Hongkong.

HONGKONG TRADE MARKS IN THE FAR EAST.

(18th November.)

The anomalies and difficulties which surround the registration of trade marks in the Far East has once again been exemplified in the letter which the Colonial Secretary directed to the local Chamber of Commerce the other day. It is obvious that when a merchant takes the trouble to register a mark which should be the definite and upward symbol of the character of the goods placed on the market by him, he naturally expects that the mark in question will be legally protected by the Colonial Government and safeguarded in those countries which have entered into specific agreements with the Imperial Government. Since the discussion on the registration of trade marks arose in Japan, over the flagrant misappropriation of old-established and valuable signs in use by foreign merchants, and the curious judgments of the Courts which in many cases granted to Japanese merchants the right to display trade-marks which they had annexed, negotiations have been proceeding between Great Britain and Japan, with the object of securing the due respect of trade symbols not only in Japan but also in China and Korea. The question which interests local merchants is, to what extent any agreement which may be arrived at will affect the protection of trade marks which have been registered in Hongkong? At first sight it certainly seems only right and proper that, if the people of the United Kingdom can have their rights respected in Japan, China and Korea they should be no reason whatever why the merchants of Hongkong should not enjoy the same pri-

villeges. There might be difficulties in the way where a self-governing dominion was concerned, but there should be none in the case of a Crown Colony which is bound hand and foot to the Imperial Government, and has as much say in matters political as a jumping poplajay. But if His Excellency the Governor's view of the situation is correct, it will be necessary for Hongkong merchants in the first instance to register their trade-marks in London as well as in this Colony if they wish to obtain the benefits which is to be extended to participants in the joint agreement. The reason for this *dilemma* is given by His Excellency in the following terms: "Otherwise a mark might be registered in Hongkong either by a British or Non-British Firm, which was the exact facsimile of a mark registered in the United Kingdom; and in that case the Imperial Government would be pledged to extend protection to two identical marks against each other. This difficulty could, however, be overcome by requiring that, in the case of letters patent, trademarks should not be registered in this Colony until they have been registered in the United Kingdom." Of course, it is quite possible that merchants in England and Hongkong might by singular coincidence hit upon precisely similar designs to be utilised as trade marks, in which case the Governor's argument would be impeccable. Or, again, merchants engaged in the same line of business might register marks whose resemblance was so significant as to be indistinguishable to the casual buyer. But these are purely speculative cases, and we think that it should not be impossible for the Imperial Government to devise measures which would simply protect the original user of the device in question, especially if he traded in the Colonies, without putting him to the inconvenience and expense of registering the trade-mark in England. From the letter sent to the Chamber by the Governor, through the Colonial Secretary, we learn, as might have been expected, "that the majority of British merchants in Hongkong deprecate the expense and delay which would be involved by prior registration in the United Kingdom; that, as their marks are not used in the United Kingdom, registration there is of no use to them; and that all they desire—to obtain by registration in Hongkong is the local protection of their trade-marks." The crowding interest of the communication lies in the tail where it is stated—that His Excellency's desire is to learn whether Hongkong merchants who register their trademarks here merely desire local protection or seek protection in China, Korea and Japan as well? If they seek the latter then, says the Governor, they must go to England for it, because they won't get it in Hongkong. So there you are. The Governor desires an opinion on a certain question on which his mind is already made up. In what way the views of the Chamber could affect the position when the principle has already been settled by the authorities, it is impossible to conceive. The members might blurt and raise quivering voices in protest, but they might as well proceed to howl in the wilderness for all the good that would result. In the reply of the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, a plain and practical suggestion is made to meet the difficulty raised by the Governor. He wrote: "In the event of the claims of a mark registered by a British subject only in Hongkong, it would be possible for the Imperial Government to protest in China the one which could prove rights conferred by prior usage." That would appear to be a single way of surmounting the obstacles raised by the Government—if the Government were prepared to consider the matter at all. As the secretary concludes: "The effect would be to protect by local registration the marks of British subjects in China, Korea and Japan as well as locally, but to protect the marks of other subjects only locally, which seems to meet the main difficulty. Under the impression that this view of the rights of prior usage is supported by the spirit of the English law upon the subject, and having regard to the extreme local inconvenience of compulsory registration in the United Kingdom, my Committee would recommend that it should not be made a condition precedent to registration in Hongkong in the new ordinance which His Excellency proposes to enact." From a business point of view the recommendation of the Chamber is worthy of serious consideration but we are afraid that it will be pigeon-holed and only heard of again at the coming of the Greek Kalends. There is one fact, however, which must give rise to some slight satisfaction, and that is the interest which the Imperial Government is giving to the question of the registration of British trade marks in foreign countries. It is somewhat curious that such commercial reforms and evidence of business enlightenment invariably attend a Liberal Administration whereas the Conservatives usually succeed in devoting their entire attention to the floating of impossible schemes or the flouting of friendly nations, which adds to the exigencies of trade operations.

MORE LIGHT ON CHINA'S CURRENCY POSITION.

(19th November.)

While the present unsettled condition of Imperial affairs in China precludes the notion that any radical changes in the direction of financial reform may be anticipated for some time to come, it is always interesting to read the complicated decrees and reports which emanate from the Ministry at Peking on this subject. The un-

dated might be inclined to think that once the decree had been circulated the question had been settled for all time, and reforms would begin right away. How far that is from being the fact those who know their China are but too well aware. On this question of finance in particular the Chinese have dallied until the patience of states might well have been deemed to be less than a virtue. It was in 1903 that the Mackay treaty was passed, and in one of its articles the Chinese Government explicitly agreed to proceed immediately to consolidate and arrange the currency of the Empire so that at length a uniform national currency might be established. It would be unfair, perhaps, to allege that up to the present nothing has been done to give effect to that agreement, for the simple reason that from time to time we have seen the authorities at the various Mints making the bold assertion that at length they had found a solution of the question, and that a uniform dollar which would replace the existing coin—whatever it might be—would be used at once, and orders given that it must pass current at a certain value. But like a great many other reforms which seemed admirable on paper these declarations came to nothing. If anything happened at all it was to render still more chaotic the varying currency of the country and to enrich the moneychangers and the native banks at the expense of the ordinary individual who was obliged to have recourse to their indulgence. There is not the slightest doubt that the task of establishing the currency of China on a sound and uniform basis is one of almost colossal magnitude, especially when it is remembered that the great majority of the population know little of and care nothing for the exigencies of trade or international questions in which China is concerned. Not only that, but in every other province the currency stands on a foundation of its own, the outcome of custom, convenience or local expediency. The establishment of a national "tael" or dollar which shall be of a standard value throughout the Empire is, therefore, a thing incomprehensible to them and an object of suspicion, involving as it would the overthrow of all prevalent ideas and the virtual suggestion that ancestral ways must be consigned to the limbo of the past. The Chinese Government is therefore faced with an extremely intricate task, requiring the greatest diplomatic skill and finesse, when it sets out to convince the villagers of the interior that any changes introduced are necessarily for the better. When the Council or Commission which was appointed by the Chinese Government to inquire into and report on the uniform national currency scheme came to frame their views they ingeniously left the larger issues at stake out of consideration and brought the matter down to a question of dollars vs. taels, invoking, at the same time, the spirit of the people in their right to stand aloof from other nations. Well, if China wishes to abide by the tael and its subsidiary fractions nobody has any desire to offer the slightest objection: but it is pure sophistry and ignorance to work into a financial report such high-falutin' nonsense as the following which appears in the report to the Imperial Government: "From the point of view of national dignity it seems to us that we ought to try and stand alone, and that we cannot afford to throw away our sovereign rights in order to gratify the wishes of others; while from the point of view of the people we should follow a course suitable to the greater number, and for the convenience of open ports or trading ports. This is as much a fundamental principle for our guidance in making the enactment today, as it will be an essential factor for the future success of the measure itself." If the Chinese prefer a currency based on the tael well and good, but at least let there be a common standard so that those dealing with the country and having extensive stakes there may know where they stand. An objection is dragged forth, only for the purpose that it may be knocked down again, that to nationalise the tael as against the dollar would tend to increase the cost of living, but as the common people deal mostly in cash the suggestion is seen to be absurd on the face of it. In the case of Siam, when that country resolved to put her currency on a gold basis, there was great fear for a time that the peasantry and labouring class, being unable to understand why they should receive seven ticals a month in place of the ten to which they had been accustomed, would create trouble at the outset. But nothing happened and the conversion of the currency from the silver to a gold standard was carried out quietly and almost without remark. Of course, the conditions in Siam—as well as in Singapore—are very different from those prevailing in China, because in the former country the foreign banks are practically masters of the situation, whereas in China every Viceroy who has a mint under his control is a self-constituted financier possessed of arbitrary and extensive powers. And it is always to the interest of the Master of the Mint to see that the institution is kept as full as possible, for the greater the output the greater the profit; and the greater the contribution to Peking the greater the chance of promotion. In one paragraph the Council settled the value of the dollar so far as they were concerned: "As regards the national dollar coined by the Board of Finance the year before last, as an experiment, the intention was to make use of this coin temporarily, as being known to the people and easy to establish. But if a uniform currency is to be sought, the standard can only be fixed after far-reaching investigation, and the present memorialists have formed the conclusion, after carefully

weighing all considerations, that the long-established use of the tael and its fractions—the mace, candaren and mil—can hardly be altered or abolished." Questions are discussed as to the fitness of the coin and such-like futile matters which do not arise at the moment, but we find no definite recommendation that an immediate start should be made with the proposal to reform the currency of the country, nothing but windy generalities which might have been framed by a pedlar of cheap goods. So that the dawn of the day when the terms of the Mackay treaty will be enforced is as far off as ever, if not farther. In conclusion, we might note that if the Chinese Government adopted a uniform tael the solution of how to improve the Hongkong subsidiary currency might be within sight.

PITY THE POOR LANDLORD.

Householders in Hongkong, both occupiers and owners must have read yesterday with no little interest and attention the judgment of the Appeal Court in the landlord and tenant case, which was a sequel to the last typhoon. Briefly, Mr. Goldring, a solicitor, sued the Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, his landlord, for \$500, being damages suffered by him in consequence of the company failing to keep his premises in a proper state of repair. It appeared that after the storm on the 28th July, the tenant discovered that the ceiling of his verandah was showing signs of dampness, but there was no leakage. Two days later there was another heavy rainstorm and he found the water pouring through his roof and verandah and causing damage to his personal effects. What the effects were we are not told nor is it necessary that we should know. The lower Court presumably estimated the damage for itself when it gave judgment in favour of the plaintiff to the amount stated. An appeal was made by the landlord company to the Full Court and the judgment delivered yesterday by the Chief Justice was of sufficient importance to be quoted *in extenso*. It affects, as we have indicated, every individual in the Colony who is an owner of property or holds the lesser part of tenant; for it may be taken for granted that one result of this decision will be a drastic revision of the terms of the agreement entered into between the owner and the tenant. We may say at once that the appeal was dismissed, and the judgment of the lower court upheld. It has to be noted that according to the *Puiscie* Judge's finding no structural defect is alleged and it appears that the damage was caused by water which had accumulated in large quantity on the roof owing to the gutter pipes becoming blocked. They were found to be choked with rubbish and grass, leaves of trees, and "black matter," and also with plaster from the wall. The pipes were apparently cleared without difficulty by the plaintiff's coolie who was sent up on the roof, and the accumulated water thereupon escaped. The agreement, upon which the original claim hinged, laid distinctly that the land-lords would "keep the roof and all exterior walls of the said premises in a proper tenable state of repair and amendment, at their own costs." The question now arose whether the landlord (that is to say, the company) was responsible for carrying out repairs of which he had not received notice, and it appears to be sound law that in those cases where the landlord agrees to be responsible for the repairs he is entitled to reasonable notice by the tenant. And the reason for that is quite clear: in the majority of instances where repairs are necessary they are not likely to meet the eye of the landlord whereas the tenant has them staring him in the face every day. Moreover, he would be a genial and somewhat soft-headed tenant who would permit his landlord to poke and pry about his premises at any hour of the day when he might take the idea into his head. But in this case, the point was that it was the roof that had been damaged and, speaking for ourselves, we should have thought that if there was one place about the house which the landlord would not be likely to visit, it would naturally be the roof. That is the layman's view which as everybody knows is no law at all. Now what do you leave when you leave a flat? So far as we can make out the only thing the tenant has a right to use in that flat is the floor, for the Chief Justice says he is "clearly of opinion that it is a lease of the interior only; that it gives no right to the lessee as against the landlord to use, except by legal necessity, either the outside walls or the roof or anything appurtenant thereto." This is a fine piece of business. Once upon a time when people were commiserating an unfortunate wail they would say: "Poor fellow! He hasn't even a roof to his head." If they had only known it, half of the sympathising crowd was not entitled to a roof over their own heads. The answer to the question, why isn't the tenant entitled to the use of the roof over him? is that if he were, and being of a bold, enterprising disposition, he might erect a sky sign on the roof illuminating the heavens for miles around with the thrilling announcement that the A.D.C. or some other popular affair was on duty to-night. That would never do. And now, perhaps the reader can see how it is that although under most conditions the tenant has to give notice in this case he was absolved? To make things perfectly clear we quote the Chief Justice. "As there was no demise of that part of the premises which were out of repair, the doctrine of notice cannot apply, for the simple reason that the lessee can go on the roof to inspect, and the lessee cannot. He would certainly in law be as much a trespasser as the lessee in the case put by Baron Bramwell in *Makin v. Watkins*. The reason for the rule as to notice fails, for

the lessor 'may know that repairs are necessary.' That a cause of action therefore occurred in the circumstances, we have no doubt on another familiar principle which deals with accumulations of water on a property which amounts to a non-natural use of it. Of course that led His Lordship into a dissertation on what constituted structural defects, and he found that the appellants hadn't the ghost of a leg to stand on. Moreover, he gave the common-sense view of the matter in the following terms: "And the practical result of our decision is the common sense one that if landlords demolish rooms, or flats, or floors, covered by a roof, it is their duty to see that all parts of that roof, with its appurtenances, are in good and working order, without any correlative duty being thrown on the tenant to warn them or give them notice of their being out of repair. The landlord's duty arises out of his relationship to the tenant if there is no covenant, it arises out of the covenant if there is one." After all, if you are not entitled to a roof when you hire a house you are certainly not required by law to pay for the thing you don't possess. But what is to become of those venturesome people who when processions and ceremonies are in vogue, promptly climb up unasked? If you are a landlord, probably the simplest way out of the difficulty would be to push them over—generally, so that there could be no cause for an action for assault.

WHEN MERCHANTS INFRINGE THE LAW.

(20th November.)

The extremely delicate and difficult question of dealing with bankrupt traders and others who have absconded with material in places outwith the jurisdiction of the Hongkong Courts has been so frequently discussed in public and has so often formed the basis of an argument before the Supreme Court that we confess it was with no little surprise we found that the Chief Justice, in giving his decision in an appeal case (which has nothing to do with this immediate question), should have thought fit to run off at a tangent in order to explain to the commercial community of Hongkong should conduct their own affairs. As an internationalist of recognized standing, we can perfectly well understand how the side-dip into the law of nations should have come to the Chief Justice in much the same way as the solitary rain in the current-bun appeals to the average boy. But there is this difference, that whereas the boy regards the dainty as the leading feature of his outfit, the Chief Justice simply regarded it as a natural, and the result of which, quite unexpectedly perhaps, he has passed an oblique dictum in no dictum which few will accept. For example, His Lordship distinctly went out of his way to deprecate the action of a European firm, which had failed to obtain satisfaction in the Hongkong Courts, in seeking redress through its Consul in Canton. Now, it is a common occurrence for the partners of tottering firms in Hongkong to vanish with all the stock they can lay their hands on at the moment and eventually settle down in the neighbourhood of South China. They have been known to have immense property in Singapore which could not be touched by the creditors in Hongkong, and if we remember rightly there was not many years ago the case of a millionaire merchant, who was known to possess huge interests in both Canton and Singapore, who went bankrupt in Hongkong, who was actually imprisoned in the home of his wife, but who, when the local judiciary had no jurisdiction over his possessions. Of course it is very distressing that there should be such depraved persons in the flesh, but the fact remains and has to be taken into consideration both by the Courts and the creditors. Then if the Courts in Hongkong tacitly admit that they have no jurisdiction over the goods of a bankrupt whose possessions are held in another country, what more naturally does any creditor commit should be endeavour, through the local representative of the country of his birth to obtain part-restitution of the losses he has sustained? It is the most natural thing in the world, in fact it is pure business, for a firm which feels that it has been aggrieved to move heaven and earth if necessary to secure whatever assets are available in part-payment of the amount due to them; and it is not to be suggested that in doing so they are attempting to gain an unfair advantage over the local creditors. Because actions of this nature are not conducted in private; the other creditors have just as much opportunity of presenting their claims in the proper quarter as the greatest sufferer by the bankruptcy. The case we are referring to is, of course, that in which Reuter, Brockelmann & Co. took action against a Chinese firm over a sugar transaction which had its origin in Hongkong, although the debt was apparently due to the benefit of its business in Canton. The Chief Justice set down the law in the following terms: "All persons in the Colony, British subjects or aliens, who are creditors of a bankrupt who is before the Court in bankruptcy, are subject to the jurisdiction of the Court. There is no doubt that if assets belonging to the bankrupt are discovered in another country and a creditor endeavours to obtain them for his own benefit, the Court has some jurisdiction to control his action, and this, if it is within the jurisdiction, or not, it is not necessary to define with precision to what extent that jurisdiction goes; it is sufficient to note that it exists; also that the discovery of a partner in another country whose property could be brought into the bankrupt estate for the benefit of the creditors comes within the meaning of assets as above referred to."

It is not necessary to say that these are very broad statements to address from the bench. It cannot be assumed that because a creditor goes the length of appealing to his Consul in a foreign country to assist him in obtaining justice, that is to say a due return of the monies owing him, that he is thereby seeking to acquire for himself an advantage over and above that obtained by the remaining creditors. But how we come to the stinging part of the decision, which is by His Honour the Chief Justice, when he says: "Further, that if Reuter, Brockelmann & Co. apply to the German Consul for assistance in recovering such assets in Canton as he with in the terms of the jurisdiction clause of the Treaty of Tientsin, so also would an application by the Trustee in bankruptcy to the British Consul for similar assistance be within their rights. And, myself, I have no doubt what would be the result. Reuter, Brockelmann & Co. did in the instance we are attempting to pass over the Trustee to the Chinese Consul in bankruptcy. They did not prove in that bankruptcy, but endeavoured to obtain payment of the whole sum due to them by application to the German Consul, and I have no doubt that, at least during the pendency of the bankruptcy proceedings before this Court, this was in violation of the bankruptcy law of this Colony, and that the protection of which they enjoy in their business in this Colony, by the Consul, cannot be what, mutatis mutandis, have possessed

the German firm in question in following this procedure, but even granting that it was not playing the game as we understand it, it was of such an extreme character as to demand such a severe reprimand at the hands of the Chief Justice. When all is said and done the firm was only looking after its own interests, in the belief and expectation, probably that the others concerned were doing exactly the same thing. We take it that the goods which were the subject of the action, were stored in Hongkong, under the charge of the Officer in Bankruptcy and could not be removed without an order of the Court. In that case, the appeal to the German Consul at Canton to move the Chinese authorities could hardly have been expected to prove of much value, for, as the Justice has said, "the Chinese are not children though they may not know the law." The firm referred to doubtless believed that they could get quicker returns if they applied for redress to the Chinese authorities without bothering about formalities in Hongkong. Such a proceeding was very reprehensible and would in many cases, if it succeeded, prove prejudicial to the trade of other merchants in the Colony, but how often would it succeed? The Chief Justice proceeded to rub in his view by remarking that "It is one of those 'loose ends' which result from the consular jurisdiction treaties with China, and which it would be for the benefit of all concerned in the commercial welfare of this Colony, to get rid of by putting the whole matter on a more satisfactory and equitable basis." What he means we cannot conjecture, unless the idea is to do away with consular courts and establish a joint international tribunal, which is in the nature of a dream. We rather enjoy the statement that there never was an "open door" in England because there had never been a door to close. We would only refer to the Aliens Bill and the projected Tariff Reform Bill which would also have been carried by the last Government if the Tories had had their way. If England has had an open door since Magna Charta, it is just possible that the experience of centuries may be reversed when the opposition next comes into power. But that is by the way, and was only introduced by the Chief Justice as a side issue, to show what a glorious thing it is to be an Englishman. In conclusion he said: "I think it right to add to what I have said that the error into which Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann & Co. fell, and which was the origin of all this litigation, was perhaps due to the fact that the firm trades in so many Treaty Ports in the East as well as in Hongkong, that this essential distinction between Hongkong and the rest of the East had somewhat escaped them." After all, if Reuter, Brockelmann & Co. erred they erred in good company, and even the veiled hints of the Chief Justice of the terrible liabilities to which they may be exposed by following this precedent will not deter other enterprising merchants from adopting a somewhat similar course in future, and the worst of it is that the Chief Justice nor anybody else has power to restrain them from doing what they please in the matter.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

EMPEROR'S ILLNESS.

NO AUDIENCE GRANTED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 18th November.

On the 18th inst., the Emperor did not occupy the Throne and attend to State affairs. This fact gave rise to reports that His Majesty was ill. Information has been gathered from another source that the Empress Dowager is seriously ill also.

THE DALAI LAMA.

AN UNFOUNDED RUMOUR.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 18th November.

It was rumoured in Tibet that the Dalai Lama had been murdered in Peking. The natives became greatly agitated in consequence.

AN EXPENSIVE VISITOR.

BUDDHIST PONTIFF URGED TO RETURN TO TIBET.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 18th November.

The stay of the Dalai Lama, with his followers, in Peking, costs \$5,000 a day. The Central Government is urging the Buddhist Pontiff's return to Tibet without further delay.

PEKING.

PRINCE CHUN APPOINTED REGENT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 14th November, 9 a.m.

Yesterday, an Imperial Decree was issued by the Empress Dowager appointing Prince Chun to be the Regent and his son to be brought up and educated in the Palace.

Some unusual occurrences have taken place in the Capital. For some days the Grand Councilors have not been received in audience. Prince Ching, who was on his way to visit the Imperial Tombs, has been recalled.

[Our enterprising Chinese contemporary issued the above telegram in an Extra to-day. Prince Chun is a younger brother of Emperor Kwang-Su. His son, who is, therefore, a nephew of His Majesty, is a boy only six years of age. Prince Chun is an interesting person.

ally. He was delegated by the Chinese Court to proceed to Germany after the Boxer trouble to tender his Government's apology for the murder of the German Minister in Peking. Prince Chun, when passing through Hongkong, was a guest of the then Governor, Sir Harry A. Blake, and left an interesting souvenir in the Colony in the group photograph taken at Government House. Prince Ching is an uncle of Emperor Kwang-Su.—Ed., H.K.T.]

EMPEROR IN EXTREMIS.

EMPERESS DOWAGER SERIOUSLY ILL.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 15th November.

The Emperor was dangerously ill on the 14th inst., and no hope was entertained for his recovery. His Majesty is in extremis. The Empress Dowager is also seriously ill.

[According to Chinese journalistic etiquette an actual announcement of the Sovereign's death can be made only if it is officially reported. The phrase "no hope" is entered for his recovery" in this instance, implies the Emperor's death.—Ed., H.K.T.]

PHYSICIANS SUMMONED.

APPEAL TO VICEROYS AND GOVERNORS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 15th November, 2.30 p.m.

On the 14th inst., an Imperial Decree was issued commanding the Viceroy and Governors within the Empire to recommend the best doctors for the Imperial patients.

The Central Government has telegraphed for Dr. Chan Peng Kwan to proceed with all haste to Peking from Kiangsu.

THE INFANT EMPEROR.

PRINCE CHUN'S SON.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 15th November.

Prince Chun's son, Po Yee, a child three years of age, has entered the Palace in obedience to the commands of an Imperial Decree.

THE REGENCY.

CHANG CHIH-TUNG'S DISPLEASURE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 15th November.

Grand Councilor Chang Chih-tung is dissatisfied with the Imperial Decree issued on the 13th inst., appointing the Regency. His Excellency has expressed his desire to leave Peking forthwith on the pretext to investigate the affairs of the Canton-Hankow Railway.

VICEROY HSU HSI-CHANG.

WELCOMED BY THE JAPANESE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 15th November.

H.E. Hsu Hsi-Chang, Viceroy of the Three Eastern Provinces, has arrived at Nanchang. His Excellency was accorded a very cordial welcome by the Japanese who made an appropriation of Tls. 100,000 towards his reception.

MILITARY MANOEUVRES.

TROOPS CONCENTRATING NEAR PEKING.

[From Our Own Correspondent.] Shanghai, 16th November, 11.45 a.m.

The troops that have gathered for the autumn manoeuvres are concentrating in Peking.

THE PASSING OF THE EMPEROR.

NO ADMITTANCE INTO THE "FORBIDDEN CITY."

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 16th November.

Some unusual happening has taken place in the Palace. No one was allowed admission into or exit from the "Forbidden City" Gate, yesterday.

Peking, 16th November. The Emperor died between 5 and 6 p.m., on the 14th inst., and was encoffined between 9 and 10 a.m. on the 15th idem.

Later. The Emperor on his death-bed gave commands for the appointment of Prince Chun's son, Po-yee, as heir to himself and his predecessor, Emperor Tung-chi.

He also left instructions for the appointment of Prince Chun as the Regent with plenary powers to administer State affairs.

Later. The Empress Dowager died yesterday between 1 and 8 p.m.

On the same day between 4 and 5 p.m. the corpse was conveyed in a sedan chair to the Palace where it was to lie in state until to-day.

Later. Upon learning of the death of their Majesties the Emperor and Empress Dowager the people in Peking became greatly agitated.

General Keung Kwai Tai has been telegraphed for to proceed to Peking at once with his troops to put down any disturbance that may arise.

Later. The inhabitants in Peking are greatly perturbed and most of the officials are exercised over the appointment of the Regency.

Every military precaution is being taken in the Palace for emergencies. Strict reticence is observed in the Palace.

DEATH OF EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF CHINA.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

[From Our Own Correspondent.] Shanghai, 16th November, 11.45 a.m.

According to an official announcement the death of Emperor Kwang-Su took place at five o'clock on Saturday afternoon.

H. I. M. the Empress Dowager's death was announced to-day.

We have been favoured with the following telegram received by Government from Sir John Jordan, H.B.M. Minister in Peking:—

"The Empress Dowager and the Emperor died."

[This telegram was issued in a Hongkong Telegraph "Extra" this forenoon.—Ed., H.K.T.]

PEKING.

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 16th November.

Owing to the prevalence of rumours in Peking every precaution is being taken by the police against disturbances.

PRESS REPORTS.

SUPPRESSION ORDERED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 16th November.

In view of the unusual happenings in the Palace, Prince Su has prohibited the newspapers in Peking from publishing reports likely to incite the populace.

KWANG-SU'S SUCCESSOR.

PRINCE CHING'S RESENTMENT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 16th November.

The appointment of Po-yee as successor to the late Emperor Kwang-Su is contrary to the wishes of Prince Ching.

The moment he heard of the announcement he despatched a confidential telegram to Duke Lan on the existing situation.

PEKING UNDER ARMS.

PRINCE CHUN'S TIMIDITY.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 17th November.

The death-bed Edict of the late Emperor was drafted by Grand Councilors Yuan Shih-kai and Sai Chuk by command of the Empress Dowager.

Prince Ching, who had then returned to Peking, took no part in the formulation of the draft.

There has been a panic in the money market in Peking and over half the number of the native Banks have closed their doors.

Later. The infant Emperor was to ascend the Throne to-day attended by the customary ceremonies.

When the Empress Dowager was in her death-bed she sent for Prince Chun to enter the Palace and forthwith assume the responsibilities in the administration of State affairs.

His Royal Highness was timorous and did not dare to proceed within

the precincts of the Imperial edifice, alleging, as an excuse, that it was more convenient, for the despatch of business, that he should remain in the office of the Cabinet where he could consult the Grand Councilors more easily.

Most of the important matters in the Palace were attended to by Yuan Shih-kai.

Although Prince Ching has been in the Palace ever since the passing away of the Emperor, he has had no voice in the councils of State. He is greatly incensed in consequence.

The death of His Majesty has thrown Peking into a state of consternation; it has given rise to rumours that there has been foul play in the death of Kwang-Su.

Later.

Prince Chun regards Chang Chih-tung as an able and experienced official and generally seeks his advice on all important matters.

The Palace is closely guarded, within and without, by troops under General Cheung Kwai Song.

Orders have been despatched to Tuan Fang, Yum Cheung and Wang Hsi-chang to hasten to Peking with their foreign-drilled troops.

In view of the existing situation and apprehending personal violence on him, Prince Chun hesitates to act as Regent.

Prince Ching does not conceal his disappointment and proposes to resign from the Grand Council as soon as the funeral ceremonies are over.

Later.

The Forbidden City is strongly guarded, and there are unmistakable signs that the political atmosphere in the Palace is abnormal.

People in the Capital are becoming panic-stricken under a tension of uncertainty. The Grand Councilors have, in consequence, prohibited the despatch of letters and telegrams lest State secrets might be given away at the present critical juncture.

The Councilors have telegraphed to Viceroy Yuan Hsi-chang to proceed to Peking by Express train to attend a conference on important affairs.

The course of events has so put about Prince Ching that he has taken ill; it is feared he cannot attend to his duties.

Urgent telegrams have been forwarded by the Grand Councilors containing news of recent events in Peking for the information of foreign countries as well as China proper.

6.45 p.m. The unconfirmed report is reiterated of the murder of the new Emperor, Po-yee. The persistence of the rumour in Peking is adding fuel to the fire of excitement prevailing in the mind of the populace.

The foregoing despatches were received by our well-informed contemporary between 4 and 7 p.m. yesterday, and as usual, with their enterprising promptitude, were issued to their subscribers.—Ed., H.K.T.]

The Peking Debacle.

PRINCE CHING DEAD.

YUAN SHIH-KAI IN THE ASCENDANCY.

[From Our Own Correspondent.] Shanghai, 19th November, 2.40 p.m.

Three representatives from each of the Foreign Legations were invited to the Palace in Peking on Saturday, to witness the lying in state of their late Majesties the Emperor and Empress Dowager of China.

The Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps, on behalf of his colleagues, expressed the condolences of the Foreign Powers with the Chinese Government and people on the death of their Imperial Majesties.

4.15 p.m. Prince Ching died at noon yesterday (Wednesday).

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 19th November.

Prince Ching died yesterday between one and three o'clock in the afternoon. Yuan Shih-kai is all powerful in Peking.

SHANGHAI GAMBLING AFFRAY.

FIRECK ENCOUNTER WITH POLICE.

[From Our Own Correspondent.] Shanghai, 20th November.

While attempting to cross the Hongkong boundary on Thursday evening, the native Police encountered desperate gamblers. In the ensuing affray the police used their rifles and swords.

Two Chinese youths were fatally wounded in the melee. Several of the police besides a number of natives were wounded.

Prince Chun, the Regent, is attending to the affairs of State at the office of the Cabinet and confers with the widow of the late Emperor once every day.

The Dalai Lama, upon hearing of the death of the Emperor and Empress Dowager, begged leave to return to Tibet forthwith. The Central Government urged the Pontiff to defer his departure, which he has agreed to do.

8 p.m. The Grand Councilors have approached the Prince Regent to take up his quarters in the Imperial Palace. His Royal Highness cannot acquiesce in the request for the present.

Japan proposed to withdraw the Legation Guards before the end of this (Chinese) year; but in view of the death of the Emperor and Empress Dowager the contemplated withdrawal of the Japanese troops will not be carried out yet.

IMPERIAL EDICTS.

A Decree was this day issued by His Majesty the Emperor appointing Tsai Feng (Prince Chun) Regent and commanding that Prince Chun's son Po-yee be brought up and educated in the Imperial Palace.

November 13th. An Imperial Decree has been issued announcing that His Majesty the Emperor has been indisposed since the Autumn of last year and that the physicians sent to Peking to attend His Majesty by the Tartar General, Viceroy and Governors in obedience to the Imperial Command have failed to effect a cure. Furthermore His Majesty's condition has lately become very critical. The Imperial patient has no appetite for food, is suffering from severe attack of indigestion, has cough and fever and is consequently feeling very weak and tired. His Majesty is therefore very anxious about his health and commands all Tartar Generals, Viceroys and Governors to send the best physicians whether of official rank or not in their respective provinces to Peking to attend His Majesty at once. Special Honours will be bestowed on those who can restore His Majesty to health and the Tartar Generals, Viceroys and Governors who recommended them will be handsomely rewarded.

An Imperial Decree has been issued giving Prince Chun, the Regent, precedence over all other Imperial Princes and Ministers of State.

An Imperial Decree has been issued conferring the Degree of Ku Ren (M.A.) on a large number of returned military students and appointing them Captains and Lieutenants of the Army according to merit.—Shanghai Times.

PRINCE CHING'S DEATH.

FOREIGN MINISTERS ON THE QUI VIVE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 19th November.

Prince Ching's death, reported yesterday, was brought about through the bursting of a blood vessel caused by violent anger; he brought up a good deal of blood.

The title "Sun Tung" has been adopted as the one of the reign of the new Emperor, Po-yee, commencing from the first day of the next Chinese year.

The guards within and without the Forbidden City in Peking have been reinforced. The minds of the people are at a standstill.

The members of the Diplomatic Corps in Peking are evincing keen interest in the present conjuncture. The Foreign Ministers propose to remove the Legation Guards to Taku.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has remonstrated with the representatives of the Powers against the contemplated step and renewed their assurance of full protection.

Grand Councilor Chang Chih-tung has been busy for days in the Cabinet. His Excellency preserves perfect reticence on recent events and does not receive any visitors except on official business.

Later. The Board of Revenue has borrowed a sum of three million taels from the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation and so averted a crisis in the money market in Peking.

On the 15th inst., when the Empress Dowager was breathing her last, it was reported that the Empress (widow of Kwang-Su) attempted to commit suicide. The Empress' attendants, however, observing her rash intention, were promptly on the scene to their Imperial mistress's rescue.

Li Li-ying, the Chief eunuch, and a *gongnan* (slave) with the late Empress Dowager, has been arrested and is in imprisonment for intermeddling in affairs of State. Enough Li has been sent to the Board of Punishments to be dealt with.

The Foreign Ministers in Peking have made application to their respective Governments for warships to be despatched to Tientsin for protection should the occasion arise.

Nanking, 19th November.

Viceroy Tuan Feng has received an urgent telegram from Peking on a very important matter.

Wuchang, 19th November. Viceroy Chang Kwei Lun's proposal, memorialised to the Central Government, to adopt a concerted plan to preserve peace and good in the South-Eastern provinces of the Empire, is acquiesced in by the Viceroy and Governors of the other Provinces.

Most of his colleagues, in their telegraphic replies, inquired how best it is proposed the scheme can be carried into effect.

Honolulu, 19th November. H.E. Tang Shao-yi, special commissioner to the United States, has cabled a memorial to Peking proposing a change in the equivalent ideograph for "V" in reference to His Imperial Majesty the new Emperor Po-yee.

H.E. Tang has also telegraphed for instructions whether it would be necessary for alterations to be effected in his credentials for presentation to the President of the Republic.

He has received a telegraphic despatch, in reply, stating that as the credentials had been signed and are in order, no change in the Imperial signature is necessary.

Shanghai, 20th November. While attempting to cross the Hongkong boundary on Thursday evening, the native Police encountered desperate gamblers. In the ensuing affray the police used their rifles and swords.

Two Chinese youths were fatally wounded in the melee. Several of the police besides a number of natives were wounded.

St. Joseph's College.

PAPAL JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

EXCELLENT RECITATION BY BOYS.

The Pope's jubilee was celebrated right loyally by the students of St. Joseph's College last Saturday evening when an elocutionary contest was held in the spacious hall of the College. The passage leading to the hall was tastefully decorated for the occasion with Chinese lanterns and the predominant feature of the hall were the decorations in red, white and blue. The stage was embellished with flags and palms and a faithful picture of Hongkong harbour completed the decoration. Among those present were the Rt. Rev. Bishop D. D. Pizzoni, Rev. Father Spada, the Rev. Fathers of the French, Spanish and Italian Missions in Hongkong, Mr. T. K. Dealy, Acting Headmaster of Queen's College, Mr. E. Ralph, Director of the Hongkong Technical Institute, Mr. H. L. O. Garret and numerous friends and parents of the students. Nine boys vied with one another for the trophy of the evening (a gold medal) and the excellent style in which each contestant delivered his part together with a complete absence of stage fright reflects the greatest credit upon the teaching staff of the institution. It was obvious to everyone present that the boys felt perfectly at home with the audience, which no doubt accounted for the success of each individual effort. As each one finished his oration (or oration surely it was) loud applause greeted the performance, but not merely a matter of formality, but genuine, well-deserved praise.

The proceedings opened with an overture (Postlude) by the choir. This was followed by "Over the Hill at Break of Day" by the choir, which was loudly applauded, the chorus being both powerful and well-timed. The serious part of the proceedings was opened by Jose Rodriguez, who gave the "Burial of St. John Moore" in a very touching style. John Silva's "The Gambler's Wife" was a really effective and touching performance. The strain which was necessarily imposed by the first two items owing to their emotional nature was somewhat relieved by a song "A Boy's Best Friend" by Archie Logan, rendered in a very pleasant style. "The Wreck of the Hebrides" by Joachim Thuan was responsible for being awarded the second prize. "Catalina's Defiance" by Isidor Mayer was followed by a song, "Take this letter to my mother," given in a rich bass voice by Edward Basto. The hero of the evening then gave "Ireland," which was both clear in enunciation and faultless in declamatory effect, the reciter's voice reaching to the rear of the hall. "The Application Bill," by H. Barrington, was a gem showing the young man's correct appreciation of the subject, the delivery of the speech and was delivered in a very telling manner which should have been more substantially rewarded. "The Song that reached my Heart" by Rodolfo Baptista and "Little Jim" by J. B. Xuyen were the last but two on the programme. Jose Tavares then treated the audience to a specimen of fine acting by his representation of a wounded soldier just before his death. The contest closed with the "Speech of Lord Chatham" by Jose Lopez, who rendered a somewhat difficult part in capital style.

The well-known scene from "King John" between Hubert and Prince Arthur was then acted. The two parts were taken up by Louis Rabat and Thomas Logan respectively; their efforts were capable of improvement.

Mr. Amos P. Wilder, Consul-General for the United States, was then introduced to the gathering and addressed the following brief remarks to an appreciative audience.

Mr. Wilder said the elocution department of St. Joseph's was to be congratulated on the excellence of the speaking. He thought it a most valuable asset for a boy to be able to stand before an audience and to say what he has to say in well-ordered sentences delivered in a clear, distinct voice, to be heard by everyone in the audience. One who can do this has an advantage; this can be seen in public life, and in the business world and in all meetings where men are gathered. In reviewing the efforts of the boys that night, the judges have taken into consideration clearness of pronunciation; freedom from embarrassment and self-consciousness or command; whether the voice has good carrying power; whether the delivery be mechanical or marked by genuine animation; excellence of tone, which is largely natural but may be schooled; and lastly and most important, that elusive thing called effectiveness—magnetism—something that holds an audience. This last quality has deep roots and is related to character, though no one has ever been able to analyze it. Mr. Wilder advised the boys to aim as to the first place and gave the gold medal to Peter Provost (Applause). They take pleasure in themselves for providing a silver medal for Joachim Thuan (Applause). Not all can win in a contest of this sort. Success here as elsewhere lies in perseverance. The story is that when David, who was ambitious, first addressed Parliament, he made a very bad first of it and sat down, dumbly, unable to proceed. But though baffled he was not discouraged. He remarked "You shall yet listen to me," and he became by practice a Parliamentary leader. Mr. Wilder advised the boys while not neglecting sports to school themselves in public speaking for they would find it useful in life in almost every occupation. (Loud Applause).

The rendering of "God Bless the Pope" by the chorus and the playing of the National Anthem then brought the proceedings to a close.

The Judge for the evening were Mr. Amos P. Wilder, Consul-General for the United States, Mr. J. J. Leiria, Consul for Portugal and Brazil, and Mr. G. T. Lloyd, who discharged their onerous duty to the satisfaction of all. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, inspector of schools, was unavoidably absent.

ALLEGED OPIUM-SELLING.

JUDICIAL VISIT TO BRITISH STEAMER.

On the 2nd instant Judge Ota, of the Kobe, Chiba Submarine, accompanied by the English and Chinese interpreters of the Court, visited the British steamer *Chikama*, then lying in the harbour, and examined certain Chinese sailors in connection with information lodged by a Chinese stoker as long ago as March last against the chief cook (a Chinese) of the steamer, to the effect that the latter had assaulted the complainant because he had refused to buy opium which the chief cook offered to sell. In examination the cook denied that he had offered opium for sale. He stated that he had sold four bags of rice to the complainant when the steamer was last in Kobe, and had received payment in Japanese notes (Yen), which on arrival at Hongkong turned out to be forged. On reaching Kobe, he spoke of the matter and in dispute took place, during which it was found that the complainant, Judge Ota, visited the steamer for the purpose of ascertaining from Chinese witnesses whether opium had really been offered for sale. Japan Customs.

KING OF PORTUGAL'S BIRTHDAY.

RECEPTION AT "DUART".

Mr. J. J. Leiria was "at home" to his consular colleagues and friends at his pretty city residence—"Duart"—at mid-day yesterday, on the occasion of the first birthday as a sovereign of the King of Portugal, Dom Manuel II. and the 19th anniversary of the declaration of the Independence of Brazil. The perfectly friendly relations maintained by Mr. Leiria with the members of the Consular Corps in this hospitable British Colony, makes it a duty of supererogation to state that his consular colleagues, who were not absent from the Colony on their business to call at the consular residence to offer to the representative in Hongkong of King Carlos their felicitations on the auspicious occasion. Owing to the absence of the Governor and the Commodore at Macao yesterday, with their staff, neither of these leading officials was represented at the reception. Among those who called were—H. E. Major-General R. G. Broadwood, C.B., Capt. R. C. Heathcote, A.D.C., Mr. Amos P. Wilder, Consul-General for the United States, Mr. Konrad von Winter, Consul for Austria, Mr. T. Funatsu, Consul for Japan, Mr. A. P. Marty, Consul for Spain, Mr. J. Eitzen, Consul for Norway, Dr. E. A. Vorelsch, Consul for Germany, Mr. A. Moreno, Consul-General for Panama, Sir Francis Pigott, and Rev. Mons. Christian and Cornelius. Those who left their cards included Messrs. Arathoon, C.B., J. O. C. da Cunha, E. H. d'Almeida, C. F. de Carvalho, E. A. Carvalho, P. Nalin, L. Berardo, J. P. Brega, P. Taylor, J. T. Andrew, A. Rodger, A. E. Robinson, G. T. Lloyd, M. A. A. Souza, J. L. de S. Alves, J. M. P. Silva, A. M. da Silva, A. H. M. da Silva, M. A. dos Remedios, C. Jos. Remedio, S. Pina, F. Botelho, F. V. Jorge, Jr., I. Rocha and L. Musso.

The visitors were given an opportunity to inspect the beautiful embroidered silk flag which is to be presented by Mme. Leiria to the Club Lusitano. It is a fine piece of workmanship reflecting the highest credit on the Sisters of the Italian Convent with whom Mme. Leiria placed the order for the exquisite national banner.

An enlargement of the King's photograph occupied a prominent position on a floral easel in the reception hall. Consul Leiria dispensed hospitality until shortly before one o'clock when he had to take his departure to proceed to Macao to attend the Ball at Government House there.

Mrs. Funatsu, wife of the Japanese Consul called on Mrs. Leiria during the day.

CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams were despatched and received by Consul Leiria:

"SECRETARIO SUA MAGESTADE ELREI, Lisboa."

"Beijo mao Sua Magestade d'este faustoso dia."

"15th November, 1908." CONSUL.

CONSUL DE PORTUGAL, "Hongkong."

"Sua Magestade agradece Vossa Excellencia seus parabens."

"LAVRADIO," Lisboa, 15th November, 1908."

"EXMO. GOVERNADOR, Macao."

"Congratulo Vossa Excellencia d'este faustoso dia aniversario natalicio Sua Magestade, CONSUL."

SIR FREDERICK'S VISIT TO MACAO.

Sir Frederick Lugard proceeded to make an official visit to the Governor of Macao yesterday. He was accompanied by Mr. A. J. Brackenbury, private secretary, and the A.D.C. Commodore Lyons, Mrs. and Miss Lyons, and Mr. and Mrs. May were of the Governor's party also. They proceeded on H.M.S. *Clio* to Macao, and were accorded a cordial reception by Governor Rogado. The visitors were entertained to luncheon at Government House, returning to Hongkong in the afternoon.

MINISTERING CHILDREN'S LEAGUE.

SUBSTANTIAL SUM REALISED.

Mrs. May, the President of the Ministering Children's League, wishes specially to thank Mr. J. J. Leiria (M. C. L. secretary for the Peak), Mr. Peter (secretary for Victoria), Mrs. Evas (Kowloon secretary), the Misses Loureiro, Mrs. Jordan, Mrs. Seib, Mrs. H. W. Bird (who so kindly got up an amusing art gallery which proved most attractive and remunerative) and the other ladies who gave such efficient and ready help—as well as the following firms and others who rendered generous and valuable assistance to the Bazaar—Messrs. W. Powell & Co. (whose scraps and remnants were responsible for many of the dainty articles sold at the stalls), Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., Weissmann Ltd., Chazell & Co., H. Kuttjones, W. G. Humphreys & Co., agents for Cadbury, Kelly and Walsh, Major A. Chapman and the Officers of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps for the loan of ground and hall, the Victoria Cigarette Company, the Electric Light Co., Mr. Dunn, for the loan of plants and palms, Captain Greenfield and the signalmen who so kindly lent the Press for advertising at reduced rates and specially the *Chinaman* who printed all the catalogues and posters for art gallery free. Mr. E. Beck of the Public Works Department who supervised the arranging of the ground. Very grateful thanks are also due to Mrs. Stedman, who was most indefatigable in making arrangements for the Bazaar and in organising the majority of the entertainments which were held during the afternoon which brought in a substantial sum.

The net proceeds amount to \$1,000 which will be divided among the following charities—

The Hildesheim Mission Blind School 300
Victoria Home for Orphanage, Kowloon 30
Victor Mission School 100
Italian Convent 100
French Convent 100
Diocesan Girls School 50
Berlin Foundling House 50
London Missionary Society 50

\$1,000

KILLED BY A RAT.

STRANGE STORY FROM SAMSEU.

A Siamese correspondent sends the *Siam Observer* the following singular story.

On October 27th Mai-Pak, who resided at Samseu, was bitten by a rat while he was lying asleep. A little later he was again bitten. Within an hour he was dead. It is supposed that the poison in the rat's tooth caused his death.

While it seems to be pretty well established that rats cause plague, it is, however, a novel theory that rats' teeth contain venoms. The facts of the case might be worthy of investigation by medical authorities.

JUSTICES' MEETING.

TWO APPLICATIONS DISCUSSED.

Last Monday afternoon, at the Magistracy, a meeting of the Justices of the Peace was held in order to consider the applications from two persons to retail intoxicating liquor to the public. The first application was from G. Bertolone for an adjacent licence to sell by retail intoxicating liquors on the premises No. 37, Queen's Road Central, under the sign of "G. Bertolone," while the next was from I. Gruman for a public licence to sell by retail intoxicating liquors on premises numbered 242 and 244, Queen's Road Central, under the sign of "The Central Hotel," and also for permission to remove the business now carried on by him under a public licence on premises numbered 242 and 244, Queen's Road Central, under the sign of "The Central Hotel" to premises numbered 78, Queen's Road Central.

Mr. J. R. Wood (second police magistrate) presided, the other present being Messrs. G. N. Orme, A. Shelton Hooper, the Rev. Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Bowen Rowlands.

In the matter of the first application, the chairman mentioned the fact that Mr. Bertolone had been convicted for committing a breach of his licence, but that should not be a bar against him getting this year's licence. He continued to remark that the proprietor of the restaurant had also been convicted, and a summons was pending against the licensee of Café Weissmann, but those licences differed from the one Mr. Bertolone was applying for, inasmuch as the others served liquor in adjunct to meals, while Mr. Bertolone only conducted a confectionery department, and a licence issued to him meant that if he sold a bun he was entitled to sell drink.

The Rev. Mr. Johnson asked whether Mr. Bertolone had a licence before.

The Chairman answered in the affirmative. Mr. Hooper—Is it current now?

The Chairman—Yes.

Mr. Hooper asked that the application be granted. On the show of hands four were in favour and one against. Mr. Bertolone was then called in and warned. He was given to understand by the Chairman that he would have to keep his business strictly according to his licence.

Mr. Bertolone said that was his object, apologized for his last slip, and the licence was granted.

Regarding the application from the Central Hotel, the Chairman stated that the licensee's old premises had been condemned by the Public Works Department, and the application was for permission to remove into new premises in Queen's Road Central. It was necessary that the police should visit the new premises in such cases and report as to whether they were suitable or not, but in this case no such report was to hand. In view of that fact he thought the application should be adjourned for two months.

Mr. Hooper again came to the rescue. He did not think an adjournment was necessary; neither did he see the reason why the justices should be asked to grant the licence if it was customary to grant the permit until the old premises were put in a proper condition.

Mr. M. J. D. Stephens (for the applicant) said that the old premises were only under repair and would be ready for occupation by the end of this month. The applicant only wanted the licence for a few days until his former premises were in a habitable condition again. His client's licence had not expired and he was called upon to remove suddenly, owing to the justices' view to the dangerous condition of the hotel. Therefore, he went to 78, Queen's Road Central. "Let him remain there," Mr. Stephens pleaded, "until his old premises are ready."

The Chairman—When will that be?

Mr. Stephens—As far as I am told I haven't visited the premises (laughter)—they will be ready for occupation by the 30th November.

The Chairman—I move that this application be adjourned until the 30th inst.

Mr. Hooper stated that the application could be granted for that period.

Mr. Stephens—We are only going to stay there a few days. It is only for a temporary purpose. My client has been put to a good deal of expense—he had to pay for two houses—and the justices should take that into consideration. The house was kept orderly and there could be no objection coming.

The Chairman said that Mr. Oliver opposed the granting of the application.

Mr. Stephens—I don't think that Mr. Oliver has such a control over that part of the town to make any objections. It may be that one of these days she will make a claim against the Government.

The rest was not audible, but the sarcasm was enjoyed by all.

Mr. F. B. Deacon, who appeared to oppose the application, said that Mr. Stephens was out of order in making the application, which should have been made at the annual sessions.

Mr. Stephens argued that he was in order. He reminded his friend that the application was an adjourned one from the yearly meeting, which was held last week.

The Chairman agreed with Mr. Stephens, adding at the conclusion of some lengthy remarks, that in the absence of any police report on the new premises, he thought them "unseaworthy," which sent the house into a ripple of laughter.

Mr. John Hastings (for the Criterion Hotel) also opposed the application. He observed that the applicant, instead of shifting into Queen's Road Central, should have gone into some adjoining house. He did not think that the shifting was *bona fide*. It was done for the purpose of taking away trade from other people.

Mr. Stephens—There is nothing to show that my client came up to take trade away from anyone. He pays his licence as well as the others, and objections from Mr. Green or Mr. Oliver should not be considered.

The matter was discussed *in camera* for a few minutes. The application was refused.

JAPAN.

MANCHURIAN TELEGRAPHS.

Tokio, Nov. 10.

The Chinese and Japanese Commissioners have signed a detailed arrangement attached to the Kuantung-Chefoo submarine cable and South Manchuria overland telegraph agreement. It is hoped in Tokyo that the line will become operative in January.

PRODUCTIVE ENTERPRISES.

Marquis Katsura, the Premier, delivered a speech at Osaka to-night. The Government, he said, has found that it is able to diminish the amount determined upon for postponement in favour of productive enterprises but will leave the reinforcement on naval and military undertakings as recently resolved.—N. G. D. News.

RETURN OF VISITORS TO THE CITY HALL LIBRARY and Museum for the week ending the 15th November, 1908—

Library. Museum.

Non-Chinese 281 175
Chinese 166 103
Total 447 278

THE RECENT RIOTS.

JAPANESE CONSUL'S OFFICIAL REPORT.

An official report from Mr. Funatsu, Japanese Consul at Hongkong, dated the 1st instant, says:—"The boycotting element in Hongkong has been very active of late. Their agitation culminated between 9 a.m. and 12 noon on the 1st instant, when hundreds of rioters gathered and railed godowns belonging to Chinese merchants dealing in marine produce, looking or throwing into the sea the goods stored there. On receiving news of the riot at 4 p.m. I immediately visited the scene of the disturbance. When I arrived order had already been restored by police, who barred the passage of the people. I learned that six arrests were made on the spot."

A later telegram from the Consul dated the 2nd instant says:—"The boycott disturbance was renewed about 7 p.m. on the 1st instant, when the rioters planned to go to the street stalls where Japanese towels, stockings, and other articles are sold. No one was injured. On receipt of this news I immediately made my way to the scene, arriving there about 8 p.m. Large crowds were assembled at some places, but perfect order then prevailed. All is now quiet throughout the greater part of the city. According to the report of the *South China Morning Post*, four or five shops and godowns have been wrecked since the 1st instant. The leaders of the rioters are said to have arrived from Canton. About a hundred arrests have been made."

A later telegram, dated the 2nd instant, 9.40 p.m., says:—"The disturbance again became very acute at 11 a.m. to-day. The police force has proved powerless to suppress the rioters, who were very smart and prompt in their movements. Two companies of troops were eventually called out for service, but order was not restored till after 2 p.m. The guard of troops was to be retained during the night. Up to noon no arrests were made in connection with the present disturbance. I learn from the authorities of the Colonial Government that, according to a police report, on the 1st instant 500 vagrants arrived in Hongkong from Canton, and these are believed to have originated the present disturbance. So far the Japanese have not been molested. When I passed through the street, the mob showed no signs of hostility against me, merely shouting the word 'boy-cott'."

The Colonial Government has just written to me asking my attention to a rumor circulated to the effect that the Japanese residents were contemplating an armed retaliation on the rioters, to-night, and requested me to warn the Japanese to refrain from such an action. I am sure that no such action will be taken by the Japanese, but I replied that the principal Japanese business houses would be warned."

The latest dispatch, dated the 3rd, at 5.40 p.m., says:—"During the night of the 2nd-3rd instant all was quiet in the Chinese town, and the authorities are of the opinion that the rioters retained from molesting Japanese shops and residents. This course was taken in order that the matter should not result in diplomatic troubles between Japan and China. The journals in question are of opinion that the movement was directed by astute Chinese officials. German and American merchants, who had been doing a flourishing trade in consequence of the boycott of Japanese goods in South China, lost this advantage when the boycott ceased, and have instigated the Chinese officials to stir up a revival of the boycott. (It may be observed that no such instigation is required, seeing that only a few days ago Chinese merchants in Singapore were heavily fined by one of the guilds for dealing in Japanese goods.)"

On the 5th instant Mr. Otani and five other leading merchants of Yokohama called on Mr. Tang Shao-yi at the Chinese Consulate just before his departure for America, and appealed for his assistance in bringing to a close the Chinese boycott of Japanese goods in South China.—*Japan Chronicle*.

THE NEW JAPANESE AMBASSADOR AT PEKING.

RECEPTION BY CHINESE PRESS.

Chinese Public Opinion welcomes Mr. Ijino, the new Japanese Ambassador to China, in the following terms:—

Mr. Ijino, the newly appointed Minister of Japan, has arrived in this country. We extend to Mr. Ijino our last issue a hearty welcome, for knowing him as we do, we anticipate a friendly intercourse with him during his term of office. He is, we know, a man of ability and tact, and has, we are sure, a keen sense of duty. With the many difficult questions which his country's peculiar attitude towards us has thrown in his diplomatic path, it is regrettable that on the eve of his arrival Japanese "Hooliganism" has become rampant in Peking. In this Treaty port, apparently, his national military men all have seen fit to display the superficiality of their civilisation. Without even scratching the animal the "Tartar" (meaning thereby the "Barbarian") has blazed forth Japan as a great ambition to appear "civilized" and to rival itself in the "country of nations," but surely such actions as her subjects have been guilty of during the last few months, in Shanghai, Tientsin, and Peking rather destroyed the possibility of her making a legitimate claim.

"We admit that 'Hooliganism' is not confined to Japanese, but it is surely a bad sign when a young country, that is to say a young recruit to the ranks of the recognised Powers of the world, allows her subjects to make themselves notorious in this manner. "We have to blame the Japanese 'judicial' for this, for watching the course of events we find that ridiculously lenient sentences are passed by the Courts upon such offenders. In some cases, even, the sentence passed appears to have been merely a farcical pronouncement which a bribe could set aside."

"Mr. Ijino comes to us to use an Americanism, 'with a clean sheet,' and we look forward to the future, when we hope he will keep it clean and suppress such actions on the part of his nationals as have succeeded his advent. We are sure of the neighbors who are representatives of the 'Sunshin' banner, but it is bad for that flag to allow too many sun spots. There are some minds already dimming the glory of her rays, but we trust that the new Minister will be able to face these and allow his country's flag, despite the adverse 'welcome' of some of his nationals, to stand resplendent in our eyes, in all the pristine glory."

ON THE SOUTH MANCHURIAN RAILWAY.

THROUGH COMMUNICATION FROM HARBIN.

The re-organised through train-service from Harbin, via Mukden, to Peking, and via Dairen to Shanghai, came into effect on October 31, bringing London within 144 days from Peking and 164 days of Shanghai (allowing for difference in time, the actual journey is eight hours less) writes T. C. in the *N. C. Z. News*. Leaving London via the Hook of Holland on the evening of October 15, with good luck making the several connections at Berlin, Warsaw, Moscow and Harbin, we arrived at Peking on the morning of November 2.

Of the journey to Harbin it is unnecessary to speak—the thing is *viens* *viens* to some a panoramic delight of movement and changing scene, to others only a weariness of body and soul, its greater or lesser misery depending on climatic conditions and the vagaries of cooks and *chefs de train*. For myself, while recognising that *quid homines tot sentiant*, I cannot understand that any rational being should condemn himself to thirty odd days of the terrors and tedium of the sea, when he can reach his destination in half that time and for less money by land.

Observe that I say "he" for, in the matter of travel, woman is neither a rational being nor (by reason of her natural tendency to baggage and babies) suitable for transportation by "les Grands Express."

But some details of the new service from Harbin may be of interest to the curious and the peripatetic. The impunctable secrecy preserved by the Wagons-Lits Company and its accomplices, in regard to the movements of their trains (a secrecy only to be overcome by getting into them and personally investigating their habits in loco) prevents me from giving you readers any information in regard to the voyage northwards, but no doubt this will be forthcoming from travellers in due season. But, in the meanwhile, let no man be deceived by any official statements, or official information—for like all Gaul, the Railway system between Harbin and Peking is divided into three parts, each of which is as complete and glorious as the other two, hoping above all things to keep its arrangements and time-tables a dead secret. Thus it came to pass that a representative of the Wagons-Lits Company who personally escorted us in the Russian train from Harbin to Kuangchewang, told us, (it wasn't his fault, poor man!) that there would be no connection at Mukden next morning between the Japanese and Chinese trains, on the strength of which statement several simple souls completed arrangements to spend the day with Mukden friends. It seemed a curious way of inaugurating a through train service, but then East is East, 'tis 't! Nevertheless, several experts reserved their judgment, and were rewarded—after some research—by discovering that a Chinese express to Peking would leave Mukden three hours after our arrival there. The Chinese Railway had even gone so far as to publish a time-table on the previous day, but this might have been merely a ruse. From the point of view of the other Companies it was, at all events, most unimportant. (Once in Hankow, I met a curiously earnest Agent of the Wagons-Lits, who implored me, as I was going home via Siberia, to send him some definite information about the journey, but that is another story, and he was sacked, anyhow.)

But to return. The trans-Siberian dropped us at eight in the morning at Harbin, where we learned of the new order of things and of the departure of the train for Kuangchewang at 10 a.m. instead of 9 p.m., a change that cannot fail to be grateful to many Harbin residents, despite their notorious hospitality inasmuch as it will relieve them of much difficult bear-leading. Two hours was just enough to get breakfast in the Art Nouveau-Railway Restaurant, to retrieve and re-register our baggage and to pack up some miscellaneous "vitals" for the day's journey. (N.B. The magnificence of the Restaurant's decoration was only eclipsed by its charges for those "vitals," and thrifty travellers may be pleased to learn that whereas the price of a roast chicken at the hands of the Chinese hawkers en route is thirty cents, the Harbin buffet charge for a fowl of the same age was 5.65. *Ex pede Hercules*—but the buyer in a hurry is over late game.)

At 6.30 p.m. the Russian train, after puffing its slow and dignified way through that rich Manchurian land, whereon lies still the heavy shadow of the Imperial dream that led up to so grievous a nightmare, came to the end of its tether, and Russia's right of way, at Kuangchewang, and we bade farewell, not without regret, to the stalwart sons of the Great White Bear. And it, here as our countrymen, began to appreciate the comfort and joy of the "through service" for, although we had tickets from Harbin to Kuangchewang and from Kuangchewang to Mukden, they made us get out at the Russian terminus and buy a 40 kopeck ticket which took us, on that same Russian train, to the Japanese line-head, five 'miles' ride; and there we had to retrieve our baggage again, in the dark and without porters, paying to kopecks a piece for it in addition to the original freight charged. All these things we did in the gloom of a narrow wooden shed, that brought us back to memory the wretched conditions of Dai Nippon, and surrounded by all the milling innumerable uniformed mysteries of the Japanese system. But in the background of our woes and worries gleamed the effulgent glory of the brand new Dairen Express, a radiant vision of fresh paint, soft-footed attendants and electric light, and so we struggled bravely on towards that lode star of hope.

And it took a bit of struggling. No doubt when the through train service comes to be recognised as a high way of advancement (as it is) from purely local traffic, the sleeping-car ticket vendors and rightwingers of baggage will be expected to speak some European language, but at present, if they know one, they successfully conceal the fact. It took us thirty-five minutes to secure sleeping-car tickets, which a benevolent faced man laboriously compiled in triplicate with a lead pencil. The price per berth being five yen, we tendered the amount in Yokohama Specie Bank notes, Newchwang currency, after the custom of previous years. Thereupon, with a heavy sigh but no spoken word, he made an elaborate calculation on the back of the clamorous crowd and said "Two Yen fifty more" from which we drew vague but unsatisfactory conclusions about bimetalism. Eventually, after securing gold yen (paper) from a money changer concealed in a little wooden box at the other end of the shed, we got those Pullman tickets, but noted with forebodings of evil that they bore no numbers nor other signs intelligible to the European. We tried our Japanese on the benevolent man, whom the crowd (swayed in its wrath behind) but only signed again, and breathed something that sounded like "wakarimasen." So we left that wreny man, and the razing crowd, to their respective fates and proceeded, yet once again, to register our baggage. We had to hand it ourselves to the Receipt of Customs, but the Pullman palaces now shone brightly ahead, and we did it nobly. Three sons of Dai Nippon, with a sly grin, looked at us as we looked at these wretched tickets, and then

went on writing confidential reports to the Government, no doubt.

"Sir," said I, to the one that looked most human, "I am a stranger in a strange land. I have been sorely buffeted this day and I ask your help—I want to get into that Pullman car—call me 'names'; take my money; walk all over me—let please register these tickets!" I think there must have been a sob in my voice, or a wild look in my eye, for one of the three apoplexies came up, and silently took the tickets away, while another came and looked at my ticket, and gave me the brass tokens of happy dispatch all without a word. It felt just like playing in a pantomime.

And so we came at last into the desired haven, the resplendent Pullman, and straightway we made for the sleeping car, where we found three youthful attendants making up those vintage beds. Changing the mattress, a bright smiling lad, we gave him our berth tickets and asked him for the numbers. He was top of a stepladder at the time, but he took the tickets and balanced himself adroitly to study them. After awhile, he smiled gaily, drew in his breath and said—I give his exact words.

"It is not diction!"

(One of us a weaker vessel—collapsed.)

"All right," said I, "let us agree to that!" But can you tell us where we are sleep?

This was evidently not in his book, so he resumed work on the upper bunk, merely observing cheerily over his shoulder that he was a station master. Whereupon we gave it up, dumped our bags in the nearest lower bunks, and left those happy children to their play. The subsequent proceedings in that sleeper were something in the style of a French farce, but it was not conducive to sleep. In any case, and under the best conditions, it was the deliberately exposed weakness in the unaccustomed, harkens and discomfort of the American corridor-bunk system, when all civilized people, unfettered by trusts and emigrant traditions have adopted sleeping cars that permit of quiet and privacy, owes an explanation to the public at large. One should not be asked to pay nowadays to spend the night classifying, soring and domestic discussions within a thirty-foot area.

And when you come to think of it, why should British capital have been spent by the South Manchurian Railway Company, in introducing these trans-Atlantic atrocities?

But the dining car was an unmitigated success, the dinner grateful and comforting, and everything therein, on this, its first journey, well and carefully pre-arranged. So, forgetting the labour and heat of the day, we drank success to the Dairen Express.

At 4 a.m. they called us, in that darkest hour which precedes the dawn, and we gathered ourselves and our kit together from the embrace of the sleeper, and were deposited on the Mukden platform at 7 o'clock. And there we lit upon a former hotel runner, erstwhile of Poland, who had discovered goodness knows how that a Chinese train would leave at 8.30. So, to make sure, we walked along the line, through soft white mists that rose to meet the dawn, to the spot to which the exigencies of Japanese politics have relegated the terminus of China's railway, two miles from the capital of Manchuria. We found the train, and found it to be a genuine through train, the last link in the new system and by no means the least.

COTTON YARN.

The *Japan Chronicle* of 27th ult. says:—A meeting held last week by the committee of the Japan Cotton Spinning Association came to an agreement either to extend by six months the term of suspension of the operation of 27.5 per cent. of the sp

THE RAUB MINES

MINING AND MILLING PRACTICE

H. F. Lofe writes in the

Mr. H. F. Lofie writes in the *Mining Journal*—

"This mine is being as possibly the oldest in the Malay States. It is situated in the State of Pahang, and the claims cover an area of twenty square miles. The ground is covered with ancient workings, which, report says, were the work of the Siamese. It is in the midst of the forest, and is reached by a service of motor cars from Kuala Lumpur, fifty miles away. The ore obtained is a three foot vein of the principal lode, Bukit Komel, which is over 60 ft. down; the others are Stope and Bukit Malacca. A great deal of surface is put through the mill. It contains shredded, gold, presumably washed from the line of reef on the hill tops.

The ore may be described as a quartzitic, lenticular, inter-bedded vein, and contains schellite, antimony, bismuth, and arsenic in the form of arsenical pyrites.

The reef, which was of considerable width, is

usually in slate formation. Often a band of autunym is intruded in the midst of the reef matter, which reaches a foot in thickness; this at times causes considerable trouble in amalgamation. That scheelite is found here is a matter of considerable interest; it is an ore body of quite a fair size, and the Government geologist, Mr. Scrivener, stated that it is rarely, if ever, found associated with gold ore, being usually seen among granite.

The mica in portions of the concession is reported to have been worked for tin.

The country around is chiefly of a granite formation, and contains many tin mines.

The motive power is almost entirely electricity, produced by Felson wheels, at the power station on the Sempau river, from which point the power is carried nine miles across the mountains to the mines. The three-phase system is utilised. As timber is expensive—and very little of the forest timber is suitable—one can readily understand this means a heavy reduction in costs.

The crushing machinery consists of three Huntington mills and forty stamps.

As miners the Chinese are found to be very suitable; they work under a contractor in six-

hour shifts. The surface work is divided between the Klings, Malays, and Sikhs. The Klings have proved themselves to be very careful and reliable engine-drivers; the Malays, under a mandore, are responsible for the mill work. The Sikhs are the policemen, while the day labourers are Klings.

electric hoist and also an electrically-driven Cornish pump, which is said to be one of the few in the world so-driven. The only point where the water is giving any trouble is at Stenstend here a wonderful Cornish pump

Some account of the cyanide plant may be of interest, especially as it is situated on the only working gold mine in the country, and has for shiftmen, coloured men. The plant, worth-while

entirely by Chinese, who did all the carpentry work, including the grooving and tonguing of circular vats; the Klings putting up the machinery. The system on this mine is to ap-

point a white man to take charge of each department. The current tailings assayed 1.12 wt. only, and they were too low grade and too full of antimony to treat. Both weak and strong solutions were tried after the tailings were water washed, and in each case no result was obtainable. However, as shown below, when the concentrates were separated by Wilfley tables, they were treated as slimes, and showed a 78 per cent. extraction. In fact, the greatest trouble had been experienced in obtaining a payable extraction from the higher grade sands which had been allowed to accumulate. The

chief cause of trouble was found to be the antimony of which sufficient remained attached to small particles of quartz to make the sands and concentrates very refractory. The higher grade tailings were successfully treated under the conditions mentioned below.

BUDDLINGS.

Assays, 16.35 dwts.; extraction, 79.5 per cent.; residue, 4.8 dwts.; treatment, four days; cyanide used, 7.05 lb. per ton; number of solutions run on, 34. This sample consisted of finely-crushed sandy concentrates; it showed no acidity or refractory material. The strongest solution used was .07 per cent., and the average was considerably below this. The treatment consisted in running through weak washes.

which produced 66 per cent, and with second treatment this was increased to 70.5 per cent. The last three washes carried no gold. It should be noted that solution values went up after double treatment was used. Another sample of boddings gave the following result:—

Assay value, 16.80 dwts. tons 1.71; tons of solution run through box 82.6; lime used, 90 lbs., strength of KCy solutions, .05, 13 per cent., sums often being nil on assay; final residue, 3.04 dwts, extraction, 82 per cent.

WILFLEY CONCENTRATES RESULTS.

These are obtained from the ore now being crushed by the battery. The greater part of the sample would pass 120-mesh screen, and is black in colour consisting of a large proportion of hematite, and a smaller amount of magnetite. The original analysis is as follows:—m.p. 1600° C. The sample was subjected to the following treatment was carried on as under:—September 26, 1907—water wash (neutral). September 27, second wash (neutral). Agitation carried on with 1 per cent. KCy solution showed the presence of sulphides with acetate of lead test. This was continued until September 29, September 30—aerating, followed by solutions, .09 per cent. and .06 per cent. KCy. Continued until October 2; then second treat-

Weak washings were carried on till October 6, when two samples of slimes were taken and washed, the result being a residue of 8.17 dwts. It was found that by ordinary agitation 52.5 per cent. was extracted up till the 30th. Then the extraction stopped. A new system was started, which included aeration, oxidation, and agitation

similar to that produced by a centrifugal pump. This brought the second residue down to 0.18 dwts., 59 per cent extraction, and finally to 8.17 dwts., or 63.5 per cent. On a working scale, this extraction was brought up to 68 per cent.

I now append details of another experiment:

on concentrates. Assay value, 22.96 dwts.; length of treatment, 7.33 days. The product consisted of concentrates from the present mill pulp, and contained a large quantity of antimony. The first two solutions carried no gold, showing ferrous hydrate or some other oxy-

long absorbing substance. Continuous washings with weak solutions, and afterwards with 35 per cent. KCy, were very effective, and gave an average of 2 dwts. of gold per ton until extraction stopped. A second treatment was resorted to, and the final extraction was as high as could reasonably be expected. The solutions came off clear, and the leaching was good. As there was no acidity, no lime was added.

I think caustic soda might with advantage be used to dissolve organic matter and avoid a heavy loss of cyanide. This experiment was a sands treatment on 100 lbs. of ore. Final

The Opium Trade.

ATTEMPTED INDIRECT MONOPOLY.
OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

On the 25th September last we reported, with full details, an attempt to create an indirect monopoly in Canton to control the opium trade by the provincial authorities of Kwangtung and Kwangsi. The official correspondence that has since passed on the subject was laid before the committee of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce on 12th inst. and is appended:—

Hongkong, 23rd September, 1908.
D. R. LAW, Esq.,
Chairman, Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

Sir,—We beg to submit herewith copy of a letter we have to-day addressed to Mr. Harry H. Fox, H. B. M.'s Consul-General, Canton, in which we have protested against the proposed action of the Provincial Authorities of the Two Kwangs, which we submit, if carried into effect, will seriously restrict and hamper the sale of Raw Opium in the Kwang Tung Province.

We shall be glad if your Chamber will do all in its power to further our protest.

We have &c.,
DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd.,—E. Shellim,
E. D. SASSOON & Co.,
E. PANANEY,
S. J. DAVID & Co.,
PHIROZSHA B. PETIT & Co.,
P. S. D. TATA,
TATA SONS & Co.,—P. B. D. Tata,
CAWASSEE PALANJEE & Co.,
P. F. TALATI,
H. M. H. NEMAZER,
M. H. E. ELLIAS.

[Enclosures.]

Hongkong, September 23rd, 1901.

Harry H. Fox, Esq.,
H. B. M.'s Consul-General, Canton.

Sir,—We have the honour to bring to your notice translations of the following documents, copies of which are enclosed:—

1. Notification dated "Kwang Tai, 34th Year (8th Moon, 9th Day)" (4th September, 1908), purporting to be issued by the Provincial Judge, the Colonial Treasurer, the President of the Re-Organization Board and Superintendent of Police of the Province of Kwang Tung.
2. Form of Licence referred to in the Notification proposed to be issued by the Two Kwangs, Kwang Tung, Coast Defence and Reorganization Board to Native Shops authorizing them to buy and sell by retail raw opium.
3. A Licence referred to in the Notification proposed to be issued by the same Board for smokers of opium authorizing the purchase by the individual mentioned in the Licence for foreign and native opium from native shops.

The notification states that the provisions contained therein will come into force and become operative on the 1st day of the 10th moon, (4th September, 1908). Under the circumstances, therefore, it would appear that no time should be lost in protesting against the action of the Provincial Authorities, which, for the reasons hereafter set forth, we contend is wholly illegal and contrary to Treaty.

The notification provides that the local Authorities shall make:

- (1) Clear investigation into the number of shops selling raw and prepared opium in every city, town, village and hamlet.
- (2) That the local authorities shall have these shops registered.
- (3) That the authorities shall then grant them licence for carrying on their business, i.e., of selling raw and prepared opium.
- (4) That after ascertainment and registration of the number of opium shops in the Province of the Two Kwangs; no new opium shops doing business in the buying and selling of raw and prepared opium may be established.
- (5) All opium shops are to be licensed and the licence is to be renewable every year and any shop either buying or selling raw opium without having a licence is liable to be seized and shut up.
- (6) Individuals who wish to purchase raw opium must procure licences and produce them to the shop to enable them to purchase the raw opium from that shop. It is incumbent on that shop to see that the purchaser has a licence enabling him to purchase the specified amount and no other, quantity than that specified in this licence. The purchaser has to hand over to the shop a copy of the licence on purchasing and retain the other himself. Purchaser without a licence are subject to arrest and punishment.

We contend that the Government of China, having by Articles 5 and 10 of the British Treaty of Nanking 1842 expressly agreed to abolish the practice named in Article 5 of the Treaty, and having agreed to:—

"Permit British Merchants to carry on their Mercantile transactions with whatever persons they please."

It is gross abuse of this Treaty if the Provincial Authorities of the Two Kwangs are allowed to carry into effect the enactments contained in the Notification above referred to. It is obvious that if Clauses 1, 2, and 3 are carried into effect, the result will be that a certain number of native establishments selling raw and prepared opium will be ascertained, registered and licensed, and this will curtail the sale of raw opium, and only the native establishments registered and licensed will be competent to purchase raw opium from the British vendor, and whether the purchase by the native shop be made direct or through an agent, it will be the same. In effect the British Merchant will have his trade cut down to the limits of those who are permitted by the Provincial Authorities of the Two Kwangs to trade with him. Such a monopoly would prevent other dealers from participating in the Opium Trade, thus destroying healthy competition and thereby crippling business and causing heavy loss to importers who will be at the mercy of the few native shops who hold licences authorizing them to purchase raw opium. Holders of licences would be able to combine to dictate purchasing prices, feeling confident of their position as monopolists in the Trade.

We submit that the scheme is illogical and is contrary to Treaty, and is illegal. With regard to Clause 4, viz.—"that after ascertainment and registration of the number of opium shops in the Province of the Two Kwangs no new opium shops doing business in the buying and selling of raw and prepared opium may be established," the result of this clause will be that a monopoly will be created amongst a certain number of existing opium shops, which shops will, as time goes on, decrease in number by either (a) retirement from business, (b) seizure and closure by the authorities of shops for an infringement or alleged infringement of the law (c) the purchase by capitalists of the shops and of the licences.

In the course of time, therefore, the sale of raw opium will be in the hands of a few, thus creating a monopoly. In this regard we would point out that it would be obviously far a native to trade whether or not a licence was a genuine licence. If a licence presented by a purchaser is found to be false, the proprietor of the opium shop is liable to have his shop closed and shut up.

and he would sustain the loss of his entire capital through no fault of his own. This would open the door to fraud inasmuch as false charges could be trumped up against opium shops in order to get them seized and closed in order to obtain the forfeiture of their capital to the Chinese Authorities. This again will ultimately result in the authorities farming the licensed shops out to those capable of paying heavy sums for them over and above the ordinary licence fees.

If these conditions are to prevail, native merchants will be chary of entering into the business, and the trade will consequently get into the hands of a few traders. We predict that in a short space of time the Provincial Authorities either by closing the existing shops or by farming them out to a few, will get the whole trade into their own hands, thus creating a monopoly, which is expressly contrary to the Treaty of Nanking.

With regard to Clause 6, on each and every occasion that an individual wishes to purchase opium, this burdensome procedure has to be carried out, and on each occasion the purchaser has to pay a licence fee. This will of necessity hamper trade and prevent freedom on the buying and selling of raw opium.

We contend that all the regulations as we have in some detail pointed out, form the nucleus of a monopoly which will monopolize the raw opium trade in the Province of the Two Kwangs into the hands of a few individuals, and possibly into the hands of the Provincial Government.

It would be greatly prejudicial to the interests of the Indian Government if such a scheme is permitted to be enforced specially in the present unsettled and unsatisfactory state of the Opium Trade owing to the action of the Chinese Government in closing up the public smoking dens, and importers, in view of the further uncertainty of demand from those who would hold a monopoly, would curtail importation, which would mean a material reduction of their purchases from Government of India's monthly sales.

We think, therefore, that it is advisable to lay the matter before you, so that immediate steps may be taken to stop the regulations being carried into effect and we trust that you will support us in protesting against this proposed infringement of our treaty rights.

In further support of our contention we would beg to refer you to the following:—

Article V. of the British Treaty of Nanking 1842.

The Government of China having compelled the British Merchants trading at Canton to deal exclusively with certain Chinese Merchants, called Hong Merchants (for Canton) who had been licensed by the Chinese Government for this purpose, the Emperor of China agrees to abolish that practice in future at all ports where British Merchants may reside, and to permit them to carry on their Mercantile transactions with whatever persons they please; and His Imperial Majesty further agrees to pay to the British Government the sum of three millions of dollars, on account of debts due to British subjects, by some of the said Hong Merchants, on the Hong, who have become insolvent, and who owe very large sums of money to subjects of Her Britannic Majesty.

Article X. of the same Treaty:—His Majesty the Emperor agrees to establish at all the ports which may be opened to the British Merchants a fair and regular Tariff of Export and Import Customs and other dues, which Tariff shall be publicly notified and promulgated for general information; and the Emperor further engages that, when British Merchandise shall have once paid at any of the said ports the regulated customs and dues, agreeable of the tariff to be hereafter fixed, such merchandise may be conveyed by Chinese merchants to any province or city in the interior of the Empire of China, and may pay a further amount as transit duties which shall not exceed per cent. on the tariff value of such goods.

Article XIV. of the French Treaty of Tientsin of 1858. "Aucune société de commerce privilégiée ne pourra désormais s'établir en Chine, et il en sera de même de toute coalition organisée dans le but d'exercer un monopole sur le commerce. En cas de contravention en présence d'articles, les autorités chinoises, sur les représentations du consul ou de l'agent consulaire, aviseront les moyens de dissoudre de semblables associations, et elles s'efforceront d'empêcher les prétextes de la prohibition de l'exportation afin d'établir tout ce qui peut porter atteinte à la libre concurrence."

also to the correspondence entitled (An Opium Monopoly at Nanking" at page 3 of the Appendix to the Report of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, 1907.

Finally we submit that so long as the Indian Government cultivates the growth of the Poppy and sells opium, it is logical that any interference with Treaty Rights with regard to the sale of opium in China should be taken to compel China to carry out and fulfill her Treaty obligations.

We submit, further, that the Chinese Government should not be allowed to make any regulations contrary to Treaty which will affect the free sale of opium from India, the growth of which, under agreement between the British and Chinese Governments, is to be reduced gradually over a period of years. We have &c.

DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd.,—E. Shellim,
E. D. SASSOON & Co.,
E. PANANEY,
S. J. DAVID & Co.,
PHIROZSHA B. PETIT & Co.,—P. S. D. Tata,
TATA SONS & Co.,—P. B. D. Tata,
P. F. TALATI,
H. M. H. NEMAZER,
M. H. E. ELLIAS,
CAWASSEE PALANJEE & Co.,

CABLE TO SIR JOHN JORDAN, K.C.M.G.,
Chamber of Commerce strongly protest action Kwangtung Authorities introducing obstructive regulations and attempting opium monopoly (stop) Regulations come into force to-morrow (stop) Action calculated very seriously affect British trade and contrary Treaty Rights (stop) Chamber's opinion is no permitted free sale of opium imported in accordance agreement between British Governments providing gradual reduction.

Letter from Government:—
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 28th October, 1908.

SIR,—I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Governor has this day received a telegram from His Majesty's Minister at Peking who states that he has made verbal representations to the Wah-wu-pu and given them a memorandum regarding the Opium Monopoly at Canton. The Wah-wu-pu have promised to telegraph instructions to the Viceroy on the subject.

I shall be obliged if you will be good enough to communicate the contents of this letter to Messrs. D. Sassoon & Co., and the

other signatories of the letter addressed to me on this subject on the 25th ultimo.—I am, &c.,
F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,
Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

Reply to Government:—

Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 9th October, 1908.

SIR,—I am directed to express the thanks of my Committee for your letter of the 28th inst. having references to the Opium Monopoly at Canton, and to state that the contents thereof have been communicated to Messrs. David Sassoon & Co., as requested.—I am, &c.,
E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G.,
Colonial Secretary.

Letter to Messrs. David Sassoon & Co.,
Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 7th October, 1908.

Gentlemen,—I have the honour to forward for the information of yourselves and co-signatories to the letter recently addressed to the Chairman of the Chamber on the subject of the proposed prohibition of the Provincial Government of Kwangtung regarding the sale of opium, a copy of a letter received from the Government of Hongkong in response to the cable of protest despatched by the Chamber in Sir John Jordan.—I am, &c.,
E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

Letter to Sir John Jordan:—
Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 9th October, 1908.

SIR,—I have the honour to confirm this Chamber's cable to Your Excellency of the 14th September reading:—
"Chamber of Commerce strongly protest action Kwangtung Authorities introducing obstructive regulations and attempting opium monopoly (stop) Regulations to come into force to-morrow (stop) Action calculated very seriously affect British trade and contrary Treaty Rights (stop) Chamber's opinion is no regulations should be permitted which will restrict free sale of opium imported in accordance with agreement between British Chinese Governments providing gradual reduction."

I am directed to forward a copy of the letter and enclosure addressed to the Chairman of the Chamber by the Opium Merchants in Hongkong.

My Committee now learn with much satisfaction that the question has been successfully dealt with by Mr. Fox, H. B. M.'s Acting Consul-General at Canton.

I am directed to add that my Committee greatly appreciate the prompt action taken by Your Excellency in averting what would have been a great injury to British Trade interests.—I have, &c.,
E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

CONFISCATED OPIUM.

SALE WILL FALL THROUGH.

There will be no opium trade between the Philippine government and the Hongkong Opium Farm, any other dealer in the "dope" on the Chinese coast, reports the *Cable News-American*. A proposal was made to the Governor-General to the end that opium now in the possession of the Collector of Customs and any future "hauls" from smugglers be exchanged for coin of the realm with either the Opium Farm or a higher bidder; but a treaty clause has popped up preventing any arrangement of the kind and the deal is "off."

The matter has been lying in suspense for some time, opinion being divided as to the morality of the proposed transaction. On the one side it was urged that a few pounds more or less would not materially alter the hitting of the pipe in Hongkong and the Chinese empire; on the other, officials loudly protested against any dope dealings whatsoever.

The Governor-General having refrained from committing himself either way, both the moralists and the economists are wondering how far their arguments would influence him. To-day, their speculation will cease. And at the same time it is just possible that they will still remain in doubt as to which side can claim the "moral" victory.

Somewhere at the Ayuntamiento looked up the legal aspect of the question and came upon a stone wall in the shape of a clause in the treaty arrangements concluded between the Emperor of China and Uncle Samuel which forbids either the United States government or any of its employees to introduce opium into China.

It is believed that this will put the lid down on a controversy which has been agitating officials and moralists considerably of late; and it is very likely that all confiscated opium will be turned into medical supplies through the medium of exchange now being arranged by Dr. Hyslop in the United States. The United States imports annually about 4000 tons for pharmaceutical use and it is believed that no difficulty will be encountered in carrying this plan into execution. Since his return, Bishop Brent has given it his hearty approval.

A THIEF'S CAPTURE.

WILLY CHINAMAN ATTEMPTS TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE COMING WINTER.

16th inst.

In the Police Court, this morning, before Mr. J. H. Kemp, a coolie, who rejoices in the name of Wong Shek, was charged with breaking into No. 9, Pottinger Street, at 6 p.m. yesterday afternoon on burglary bent. Wong, who must have been fully alive to the fact that some provision against the "cold, biting wind" of this coming winter should be made, entered a house, which is occupied by some stall-holders of the Central Market, and while the honest men were having their meal, Wong proceeded to take possession of some clothing on which his greedy optics fell. Everything would have gone well had not one of the men felt ill and suddenly returned to the scene where the thief was being committed. The thief was rudely interrupted by his task by being asked "what he was doing there and the reply his interrogator received was a gentle request to mind his own business. He had very much to say, however, that a gutter in the roof had broken down and that he was waiting for the intruder. At the same time, Wong sprang at the inquisitive folk's throat and grabbed it. A tussle followed, and Wong, in trying to escape, ran into the arms of a *lukung* who was waiting for him at the foot of the staircase. The next thing Wong was aware of was to feel the heavy hand of the law on his shoulder.

The method used by the defendant in entering the house is alleged to have been accomplished by picking the lock. The case was remanded.

17th inst.
The coolie who broke into 9, Pottinger Street, on Sunday afternoon and stole clothing and other stuff to the value of \$35, was sentenced to six months' hard labour in the Police Court, today, by Mr. J. H. Kemp.

A Landlord's Duty.

NOTICE TO TENANT NECESSARY.

IMPORTANT DECISION OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

The Chief Justice (Sir Francis Pigott), presiding in the Supreme Court last Wednesday, gave his reserved decision in the appeal case in which the Humphreys Estate and Finance Company sought to set aside a judgment of Mr. Justice Gompertz, given against them in favour of Mr. P. W. Goldring, a solicitor, who claimed \$500 for breach of contract. It may be remembered that the complaint was that the appellants had failed to comply with an agreement whereby they undertook to keep the roof and exterior walls of the respondent's premises at Kowloon in a proper state of repair and amendment.

His Lordship dismissed the appeal with costs. In delivering his judgment the Chief Justice said:—In this case the plaintiff was tenant for one year of a flat on the second floor of a house in Robinson Road, Kowloon, and he sued the landlord for damages to his property caused by water coming into the flat. The following facts from the judgment of the learned Justice: some of them are challenged by the notice of motion in so far as they are inferences; but we are of opinion that these inferences are sound. "On 28th July the Colony was visited by a severe typhoon, causing considerable damage to buildings. After this storm the plaintiff noticed dampness in the ceiling of the verandah but this passed off and there was no leakage. The plaintiff apparently thought no more about it and did not inform the defendant company of what he had seen. On the 20th August it rained heavily all day and next morning plaintiff found water pouring through his roof and verandah wall, causing considerable damage to his personal effects. He now claims \$500 as loss suffered by him in consequence of the breach by the defendant company of their agreement to keep the premises in proper repair. No structural defect is alleged and it appears that the damage was caused by water which had in large quantity become blocked. There were found to be choked with rubbish and grass, leaves of trees, and 'black matter,' and also with plaster from the wall. The pipes were apparently cleared without difficulty by the plaintiff's coolie who was sent up on the roof, and the accumulated water thereupon escaped. The agreement contained the following clause:—'The landlords shall keep the roof and all exterior walls of the said premises in a proper tenable state of repair and amendment at their own cost.' The plaintiff sued for breach of this agreement and recovered \$500 damages. The defendant is now appealing from the judgment of the learned Justice. The appellants rely on the fundamental principle of law laid down by the majority of the Court of Exchequer in *Makin v. Watkinson* and since adopted by all courts that on a covenant such as this the landlord cannot be sued for non-repair, or from damages resulting from non-repair, unless he has received notice of want of repair. It is to be noted at once that there is a difference in the facts of this case and that for here the house was a flat and not of a whole building and it was argued that this is sufficient to take the present case out of the principle. We must therefore see what are the reasons on which this principle is based. As a matter of fact it works out not as a principle of law but as a very simple little bit of common sense. Baron Bramwell and Channell admitted that the dictum of Chief Justice Mansfield and Justice Gibbs in *Moore v. Clark* was *obiter*, but they gave judgment in precisely the same sense. The tenant may charge the landlord without notice for the repairs to which he is entitled, but the tenant must be on the spot when the repairs are wanted; the tenant is, and therefore the tenant cannot charge the landlord for breach of repairs without notice, for the tenant may not know that repairs are necessary. There was some discussion as to whether the necessary words to give effect to this idea would be incorporated into the covenant; but it was held that on the assumption that the contracting parties were reasonable men, and intended what was reasonable, it might be done. The test of reasonableness was this: if the tenant is not to know that repairs are necessary, he must have no means of ascertaining the condition of the premises; because this assumes that 'if the tenant comes to repair when no repair is needed he will be a trespasser'; and that if he came for the purpose of looking into the state of the premises, the tenant could prevent him because that would not be a lawful cause of entry. I should have thought that a reasonable entry for the purpose of looking into the state of the premises would have been justified from the tenant's duty to keep the premises in a proper state of repair, but if the tenant declined he certainly could not recover. But although these criticisms of some part of the reasoning on which *Makin v. Watkinson* is based are necessary, it is quite clear that the idea involved in the decision is that where the tenant has parted with the control of the premises he cannot prevent him because that would not be a lawful cause of entry. I should have thought that a reasonable entry for the purpose of looking into the state of the premises would have been justified from the tenant's duty to keep the premises in a proper state of repair, but if the tenant declined he certainly could not recover. But although these criticisms of some part of the reasoning on which *Makin v. Watkinson* is based are necessary, it is quite clear that the idea involved in the decision is that where the tenant has parted with the control of the premises he cannot prevent him because that would not be a lawful cause of entry. 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MORPHIA IMPORTATION.

PROHIBITION AGREED UPON BY THE POWERS.

The following letter was read at the monthly meeting of the committee of the Chamber of Commerce on the 12th inst.:-

Colonial Secretary's Office,
and November, 1908.

Sir,—I am directed to transmit for the information of the Chamber of Commerce the enclosed copy of a despatch from His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Peking with copy of the Notification issued by Sir J. N. Jordan to His Britannic Majesty's Consuls at the Treaty Ports in China.—I am, &c.,

(Sd.) F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,
The Chamber of Commerce.

(Copy.)

Peking, 16th October, 1908.

Sir,—I have the honour to transmit herewith, for Your Excellency's information, copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Sir Edward Grey on the subject of the proposal of the Chinese Government to prohibit, under Article XI of the Mackay Treaty of September 5th, 1902, the importation, except for medical purposes, of morphia into this country.

On the receipt of a Note from the Waiwupin informing me that the Treaty Powers had all consented to the enforcement of the prohibition, I telegraphed to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs proposing to publish a warning/notice to British subjects. I have now received Sir Edward Grey's approval of this procedure, and the notification, accordingly being issued through His Majesty's Consuls at the Treaty Ports.

A King's Regulation making the Chinese Decree of prohibition binding on British subjects will shortly be promulgated.—I have, &c.,

(Sd.) J. N. JORDAN.

His Excellency,
Sir F. D. Lugard, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., &c.,

(Circular.)

British Legation,
Peking, 10th October, 1908.

Sir,—I enclose for your information and guidance copies of correspondence with the Waiwupin in regard to Article XI of the British Chinese Treaty of September 5th, 1902 (Prohibition of the general importation of Morphia), which it has been agreed shall be brought into operation from January 1st, 1909.

You are requested to issue the notification to British subjects, which is enclosed, and to take whatever steps may be necessary to secure the proper fulfilment of the Treaty provisions pending the issue of a King's Regulation which is under consideration.—I am, &c.,

(Sd.) J. N. JORDAN.

His Majesty's Consul.

(Translation.)

PRINCE CHING TO H. M. MINISTER.

Peking, 18th September, 1908.

Sir,—With reference to the question of prohibiting the importation of morphia into China I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that, as a result of repeated representations on the part of this Board to the various Foreign Representatives in Peking, replies have now been received from each, signifying the concurrence of their respective Governments in such a measure; and whereas effect should be given to this decision as soon as possible, it is now intended to prohibit the importation at any Chinese port of morphia or its salts from January 1st, 1909.

As regards the supply necessary for medical purposes, the following method of procedure has been elaborated:—

"Any foreign doctor wishing to import morphia must execute a bond before his Consular authorities declaring that it is for his own use or solely for use in a specified hospital.

"Any foreign doctor wishing to import morphia must similarly execute a bond before his Consular authority pledging himself to retail it without a foreign doctor's prescription, and even when a prescription is produced, that he will only sell small quantities.

"The Consular authority will thereupon transmit the bond and the exact details of the amount to be imported to the Imperial Maritime Customs, and when the Imperial Maritime Customs have issued a special permit the 'consignment' may be landed.

"Any infringement of the terms of the bond will render the offending party from ever obtaining permission in the future to import morphia.

"The Tariff duty to be levied on such imports will be reduced to five per cent *ad valorem*. If consignments are imported without a special permit, they will be confiscated by the Customs. Consignments already afloat previous to January 1st, 1909, will be granted a reasonable time-limit by the Imperial Maritime Customs, within which they may be imported, but such consignments will be subject to the present rate of duty and will not benefit by the reduced rate.

"Finally, whereas China agrees to prohibit the manufacture of morphia and appliances for the injection by Chinese tradespeople, the Powers also agree to prohibit the manufacture in China of morphia or appliances for its injection by any of their nationals."

The above articles represent the arrangements which were agreed upon between China and the Powers for prohibiting the morphia traffic and in committing them to Your Excellency, have the honour to request that they may be brought to the knowledge and attention of all British subjects.

While awaiting also the honour of a reply, I am, &c.,

(Sd.) PRINCE CHING.

(Copy.)

British Legation,
Peking, 10th October, 1908.

Your Highness.—The contents of Your Highness' Note of September 23rd to the effect that the Treaty Powers having all agreed to its conditions, Article XI of the British Chinese Treaty of September 5th, 1902, on the subject of the prohibition of the importation of morphia would be brought into force from January 1st, 1909, were submitted by me to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs by telegraph, and I am now in receipt of telegraphic instructions expressing the assent of His Majesty's Government to the course proposed by the Chinese Government.

Notifications in this sense will be issued at all His Majesty's Consulates in China as soon as practicable.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Highness the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Sd.) J. N. JORDAN.

His Highness Prince Ching.

CHINA'S CURRENCY.

UNIFORM SILVER STANDARD.

The following letter was read at the meeting of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce on 12th inst.:-

Colonial Secretary's Office,
10th November, 1908.

Sir,—With reference to my letter No. 1778/1004 of the 25th August, 1904, I am directed to transmit for the information of your Chamber the enclosed copy of a despatch from Sir John Jordan dated the 22nd ult.—I am, &c.,

(Sd.) F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,
Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

British Legation,
Peking, 22nd October, 1908.

Sir,—With reference to my despatch of 8th January last, I have the honour to transmit herewith, for Your Excellency's copies of an Imperial Decree issued on October 5th, and of the Memorial of the Government Council upon which it was based obtaining the introduction of a uniform silver currency throughout the Empire of which a coin weighing one K'ü Ping or Treasury tael is to be the unit.

I have thought it might possibly be of use to Your Excellency and the Chamber of Commerce to have an authorized translation of these documents.—I have, &c.,

(Sd.) J. N. JORDAN.

His Excellency Sir F. D. Lugard, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Hongkong.

DECREES.

[Peking Gazette.]

5th October, 1908.

An Imperial Decree in response to a memorial of Prince Ching and other Ministers of the Government Council, and of Prince P'iaolin and other Members of the Senate, who, in obedience to our Commands, have deliberated upon the subject of a uniform national currency.

A standard currency is the fundamental principle of public finance, and various countries have adopted a gold coin as their unit of value, with subsidiary currency of silver and copper tokens. Under well-framed regulations such currencies have been found convenient and profitable. But it requires years of preparation to be ready for such a measure, which can be no means be attained at one step. The finances of China are in confusion and the standard of the currency is an urgent necessity. If actual gold coins were to be taken as the standard unit, it would be difficult to raise the necessary amount; while if gold were merely taken nominally as the standard unit, grave dangers would be incurred.—It is evident therefore that we should first standardize and render uniform the silver currency, and then carefully proceed to take measures for a further advance, with a view to securing the adoption of a gold standard in the future.

The memorialists have pointed out that the use of the tael and its fractions has been so long established that it would be difficult to substitute any other denomination in its place. The Committee of Finance in a previous memorial also recommended the determination of the tael as the silver coin to be used.

We therefore command that a large silver coin shall be struck weighing one K'ü Ping tael, and that large quantities of silver coins weighing .5 of a K'ü Ping tael shall also be struck for general convenience of use. Also minted for general convenience of use. Also minted for general convenience of use. Also minted for general convenience of use.

Let the Governors-General and Governors of Provinces examine the conditions in their jurisdiction and devise means in conjunction with the Board of Finance for determining afresh, either by decreasing or increasing as the case may be, the allowances and rice money of territorial authorities and tax-collectors while on duty together with the expenditure for travelling on the public service, and let the rates be published openly by proclamation so that the peculations of clerks may be abolished for ever.

As regards the diversity of silver currency in the various provinces, and the differences of touch, which give dishonest traders and market dealers the opportunity for demanding discounts and profits off each transaction, grievous injury is inflicted thereby on all classes; and the Board of Finance is now commanded to issue stringent regulations forbidding such practices in the future, with the view that, in a given number of years the national silver currency may become completely uniform.

Until the new coinage has been minted in sufficient quantities the dollar and subsidiary silver pieces in use in the Provinces, as well as the sycee may be used as before, for the time being, on the market, and treasury payments may still be made in sycee for the present, but must year by year be diminished by the substitution of the new silver coins. On these questions let the Board of Finance carefully consider the circumstances and take satisfactory steps for the execution of this measure.

Let this Decree be generally circulated in all parts.

[Translation.]

MEMORIAL OF GOVERNMENT COUNCIL (HUI CHENG WU CHU) ON THE QUESTION OF A UNIFORM NATIONAL CURRENCY.

The Special Envoy to America, Tang Shaoyi, having memorialized the Throne on September 22nd, praying that effect should be given to all the Articles of the Commercial Treaties, and that the question of currency should be speedily determined, the present memorialists were commanded to deliberate and report thereon without delay.

As the Throne is aware, the question of currency has been considered repeatedly by the high authorities in the Capital, and investigated and reported upon by all the Provincial Authorities. Special Memoranda on the subject have also been submitted by Chang Chih-tung, Lu Ch'uan-lin and Yuan Shih-k'ai, as well as by the Board of Finance; all of which, under a Decree of April 26th, were handed over to the Government Council and the Senate for consideration. All this shows sufficiently the great care which has been bestowed by the Throne on this important question.

Now, the freedom of communication throughout the world renders this question of currency of still greater import than ever before. If we are to follow the rest of the world we should adopt a gold standard. But if the present conditions prevailing in China be our guide, we should use a silver standard. Moreover, if the principle underlying the develop-

ment of currencies be examined, it will be found that between the extreme of copper and gold there must always be the intermediary stage of a silver currency; and for these reasons it is both right and suitable that China should now begin at first with a silver standard. But although the adoption of a silver currency has been unanimously advocated, there has been by no means the same unity of opinion as to whether it should be a tael of silver currency. The present memorialists, having considered this point most profoundly, and from the reports of the Governor-General and Governors of Provinces that eleven Provinces favour the tael against eight in favour of the dollar—the remainder either advocating the use of both concurrently, or proposing the introduction of a new coin of 7 mace.

Yang Tack-ten, in his Memorial, also favoured the tael currency, and from the point of view of national dignity it seems to us that we cannot afford to throw away our sovereign rights in order to gratify the wishes of others; while from the point of view of the people we should follow a course suitable to the greater number, and not change a tradition of the country for the convenience of open ports or trading marts. This is as much a fundamental principle for our guidance in making the enactment to-day, as it will be an essential factor for the future success of the measure itself, and as we have dealt with this point in previous Memorials there is no need to elaborate it further. We now propose merely to present a few of the principal arguments on both sides in the problem of adopting a dollar or a tael currency.

From the point of view of public convenience it has been said that as a large supply of dollars already exists, it would be simpler to extend their use than to adopt a tael currency. But there must be borne in mind that in every place where dollars are used it is always in combination with sycee, and in all the places where sycee is used it by no means follows that dollars are also current.

Chinese dollars were originally coined in order to oppose the invasion of the Mexican dollar, and it seems to us that if a national currency is specially established, everyone will have perfect confidence therein. As regards the objection that the higher denomination will tend to raise the cost of living, while a small denomination will tend to economy in prices, it must not be forgotten that besides the tael, there must be fractional currency, and thus a 5-mace piece will prove more convenient than one of 7 mace. Moreover the bulk of the people in their daily life mostly rely upon the copper currency, and if this has an unimpeded circulation there is no reason why habits of extravagance should be engendered.

It has been argued also that the value of a dollar approximates that of 1,000 Cash, and that with the principal and fractional coins so conveniently related calculations are simplified. But as long as the legal ratios of the currency are not fixed, the market rates must constantly vary, and as nearly all the public and private transactions involve exchange between silver and cash the substitution of dollar values in place of the tael would only result in producing a complication of odd fractions.

Another argument is that in all currencies coins should be reckoned by the piece and not by the weight. But just as Dollars can be reckoned by the piece, so also can taels once they are struck into coins, and while the troubles of conversion and discounts will be saved, such coins will also fulfill the condition of corresponding in weight to their inscribed denomination.

To extend our argument further afield; in all our transactions with other countries, foreign obligations have always been liquidated in terms of taels. The Native Customs revenue, also, is expressed in terms of K'ü Ping taels. Foreign Commerce is carried on entirely by means of exchange calculations, and the price of the silver market fluctuates with the state of the dollar. By using a tael currency transactions can all proceed as before, and the extended use of such a coin cannot fail to prove advantageous.

The coinage of a tael currency was recommended by the Council of Finance. In Hupeh and the New Dominion a tael currency has been in use for some years. The Board of Finance also held that if a silver currency were to be adopted there could be no harm in using a tael coin.

This, then, is also our present decision: and we have further adopted the suggestion of Tang Yang-chang, a large quantity of 5 mace pieces (half taels) be of equal currency with the tael coins and to be legal tender for any amount. Besides these 2 coins we propose that there should be 1 mace and 1/2 mace (5 candareens) pieces, as subsidiary currency. These coins will in the future take the place of the 10 cent and 5 cent pieces of the past, and will prevent the rise of prices or difficulties in the daily-life of the people, besides forming part of our preparations for a gold standard.

As regards the national dollar coined by the Board of Finance the year before last, as an experiment, the intention was to make use of this coin temporarily, until being known to the people and easy to establish. But if a uniform currency is to be sought, the standard can only be fixed after far-reaching investigation, and the present memorialists have formed the conclusion, after carefully weighing all considerations, that the long-established use of the tael and its fractions—the mace, candareen and mil—can hardly be altered or abolished.

The most suitable weight for the standard coin will be the K'ü Ping tael; and as regards the fineness, it will be remembered that from the minting regulations drawn up by the Council of Finance and submitted to the Throne, it appeared that a tael's weight of so-called "full touch" silver, as generally used throughout China, actually contained when melted only .98 or .99 of a tael of pure silver; and they proposed therefore that a tael and 5-mace pieces should be .98 fine and 1 and 2-mace pieces .95 fine.

The recent memorandum of the Board of Finance observes further that Chinese sycee has never actually been 100 per cent fine. Recent analysis has shown that the best does not reach .95 touch. Supposing, therefore, that coins of 100 per cent pure silver were struck, the use of broken silver could not well be suddenly abandoned as soon as the new coinage appeared, and this, together with the use of Mexican dollars and Chinese Provincial Dollars—which are all 6.6 in fineness while passing for 7.0 of pure silver would lead to illicit melting down of the heavier coin, as invariably happens under such circumstances. The same will be remembered that from the minting regulations drawn up by the Council of Finance and submitted to the Throne, it appeared that a tael's weight of so-called "full touch" silver, as generally used throughout China, actually contained when melted only .98 or .99 of a tael of pure silver; and they proposed therefore that a tael and 5-mace pieces should be .98 fine and 1 and 2-mace pieces .95 fine.

Now it will be found that the Russian gold rouble piece weighs 6.55 grammes of which only 6 grammes is pure gold. The Japanese gold yen, again, weighs 4.32 mace, of which only 2 mace is pure gold. The remainder is alloy, but in use it all passes for pure gold. The same is found in all countries. Though we have long started a gold currency, and temporarily use silver to take its place, we must certainly follow the same plan. From recent experiments in minting we find a silver tael coin with the addition of 1 per cent alloy

makes a strong and clear ringing coin. Of course the expense of minting, to be considered, and the labour and alloy, which is estimated at 1/2 per cent, can be paid for out of the profits accruing from the subsidiary coinage. If this is insufficient the profits from the copper currency could be drawn upon, and if that is still insufficient there remain the profits on the paper currency.

(The rest of the Memorial contains no further suggestions of importance.)

PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION.

THE REUTER BROCKELMANN CASE.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

A judgment of some importance to merchants in this Colony, having reference to the old question of partnership registration, on which subject we have dealt with before, was delivered by Sir Francis Pigott (the Chief Justice) last Wednesday. The matter at issue was that in which the Kwong Weng Cheung firm of Canton, sued for an injunction to restrain Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann and Company, their servants, and agents from falsely representing to the German Consul at Canton, and to the Chinese authorities at Canton that certain of the partners of the Cheung Loong firm of Hongkong, sugar merchants, were also partners in the plaintiffs' firm; and from further and unduly enforcing payment by the plaintiffs of a debt alleged to be due to the defendants by the Cheung Loong firm, by attachment of property belonging to the plaintiffs or in which they were interested. The plaintiffs claimed the sum of \$10,000 damages for alleged false representation and libel.

Readers will recollect the special jury, after considering the matter for nearly a fortnight, returned a unanimous verdict for the Chinese defendants in the sum of one dollar. They agreed that nine persons were not partners in the Kwong Weng Cheung by a majority of five to two. They agreed that the three, Wong Hing-tong and two others, partners in the Kwong Hing Cheung, were partners in the Cheung Loong on February 21st, by a majority of six to three. They agreed, by a majority of four to three, that the defendants acted with reasonable and probable cause in alleging on February 21st, that these three men were partners in the Cheung Loong. They were also unanimous in finding that this did not constitute libel, and that there should be no damages.

An appeal was then applied for and obtained, the plaintiffs giving their grounds that the verdict of the jury on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th questions submitted to them be set aside on the grounds that the verdict was contrary to the evidence, against the weight of the evidence, and, *per se*, in that the majority of the jury were influenced by the desire not to allow the plaintiffs to have the benefit of the judgment of the Honourable Chief Justice in the action of the Kwong Weng Cheung firm, the identity of the partners was concealed by the use of *hong* names while it was maintained by the defence that the judge was wrong in directing the jury that in consequence of the defendants not having produced the warrant of the Chinese Authorities, under which the seizure of the property of the plaintiffs had been made, they must find a verdict for the plaintiffs with damages for trespass to the goods of the plaintiffs; that inasmuch as the jury found a verdict for the defendants on all the issues of the case, and only found for the plaintiffs on the one issue of trespass to goods because they were directed so to do, the judge was wrong in refusing the application of the defendants for the costs of those issues which the jury had found in their favour; that the grounds upon which such refusal was based, namely, (1) that the direction to find for the plaintiffs on the trespass issue terminated the case, and that the issues submitted thereafter were irrelevant, and therefore unnecessary, did not constitute good cause for depriving the defendants of the costs of such issues.

The Chief Justice found in favour of Reuter Brockelmann. The *Puina* Justice disagreed. In the course of a very lengthy judgment the Chief Justice said:—A certain sugar firm, the Cheung Loong, composed of two partners, Wong Yiu Nam and Loung Tai Pang, were in business in Hongkong, and had dealings with Messrs. Reuter Brockelmann, the defendants' branch house in the Colony. At the time immediately preceding the occurrences which led to this suit, the Cheung Loong had contracted to purchase sugar to the extent of about \$50,000 from the defendants. Delivery had been taken of a certain amount of the sugar, and \$5,000 had been paid on account, but a considerable quantity, 4,000 bags, had not been taken, and consequently remained in godown. On the construction of the contracts, I have no doubt that the property in this sugar had not passed to the Cheung Loong, but remained with Reuter Brockelmann and Co.; that their right was to sell the sugar speedily and obtain the best price they could, and to prove in the bankruptcy of the firm for the difference—when, in this contract, delivery had been taken of a certain amount of the sugar, and \$5,000 had been paid on account, but a considerable quantity, 4,000 bags, had not been taken, and consequently remained in godown. 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A CONTRACTOR'S CLAIM.

AN OLD MAN'S AFFAIRS.

In the Court of Summary Jurisdiction last Thursday, Mr. Justice Goppert presiding, a somewhat complicated case was heard, when Li Tak Chun, a contractor of 69, Wellington Street, sued H. S. Cooper, a Parsee merchant carrying on business at 77, Wyndham Street, to recover the sum of \$111.30 for work done in colour-washing and repairs to some houses in Mosque Street. Mr. P. W. Goldring, of Messrs. Goldring, Harlow and Morrell, appeared for the plaintiff, while Mr. Ouy Kong Sing represented the defendant.

The plaintiff, an old, bearded contractor, said he carried on business at 69, Wellington Street. He spoke to having entered into a contract with the defendant for five houses in Mosque Street (Nos. 2 to 10). The balance due to him was \$25. On the 24th October last, he sent a bill for \$36.30 to defendant's office. Witness admitted that there was no written contract, but merely a verbal agreement between the contracting parties. He had only received \$10 on account of the work, the rest of the money not having been paid to him. Plaintiff denied that he had agreed to do the work for nothing. Questioned as to the date when the work was started, witness said that it commenced in March.

Cross-examined by Mr. Kong Sing, plaintiff said that he finished the work in Mosque Street towards the end of August, at the end of which he gave a receipt for \$49 in full settlement of the contract. He received \$500 and the balance of \$25 was promised to be returned to him until some work of a minor nature at the defendant's office was completed, to which the plaintiff agreed. Out of this \$25, \$1.50 was paid to a carpenter on office account. Plaintiff himself applied for the contract to be awarded to him but did not offer to repair defendant's office for nothing in consideration of the contract being given to him. He had a partner named Ching Wa Cheung. He lost money in the contract to the extent of \$900. Plaintiff denied that it was his partner who had prompted him to take proceedings.

By Mr. Goldring—The repairs were going on for a considerable time.

Three other witnesses were called to the stand. Of these, Au Chun, who said he lived in the basement of defendant's office, caused some merriment by saying he was a cook and a broker, and seemed to be ignorant of his unconscious humour. Abdul Rahim, a Moham-median architect, also gave evidence.

There was some discussion between Mr. Goldring and the presiding judge as to the question of costs. Counsel asked for a stay of execution, which was refused.

Judgment was entered for the defendant with costs.

A RECORD SHIPMENT.

"KAGA MARU'S" HEAVY FREIGHT.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer, of 17th ult., says:—

With a cargo of nearly 5,000 tons, constituting in value the largest of any shipment from the Orient during the calendar year, the Japanese liner *Kaga Maru*, Capt. G. S. Laprak, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha line, reached Seattle at 10 o'clock last night after an exceedingly smart passage from Yokohama. Included with the merchandise brought to Seattle for distribution among the large cities of the country is an item of 1,605 bales of raw silk, aggregating a value of \$1,500,000, and 1,950 packages of Chinese fire-crackers. The China goods are for the use of Oriental in observance of Chinese New Year holidays. The shipment is for distribution over the United States, and its transportation by the Japanese line is taken as proof that the Chinese port against Japanese vessels is at an end.

In addition to having transported the richest cargo of the year, Capt. Laprak's command made a passage from the Orient that is additionally noteworthy by reason of speed-recorded. Through two days of exceedingly bad storms off the Japanese coast, the *Kaga* was driven until she succeeded in making up one day of the two she had been delayed in the Orient. While at Hongkong the steamer was given an inspection and survey by Lloyd's agents, and was found to be in excellent condition. Other than the storms of the first two days at sea the passage of the *Kaga* across was pronounced unusually pleasant for this season.

CHINESE BOYCOTT WAGES.

Advices brought by officers and passengers of the *Kaga* confirm earlier reports of the abandonment of the Chinese boycott. The offerings of freights at China ports were the first that have been made since the Nippon Yusen Kaisha vessels for several months. The handling of the Chinese fireworks is credited by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha officials as a transportation achievement worthy of great consideration. This business has usually been routed through Shanghai, but the excellence of the prevailing schedules between the Orient and Puget Sound caused the business of last year to be diverted to Seattle. The existence of trade unfriendliness between Japan and China had caused the belief that such an arrangement would not be made this year. The handling of fireworks constitutes a shipment of approximately 100 tons, at an unusually high rate. The goods are consigned to prominent Chinese in every city of the United States. In addition to being important as a transportation item, fireworks trade throughout the Puget Sound district means an important factor for the receipts of this port, the goods carrying an import rate of 8 cents per pound.

The raw silk shipment by the *Kaga* is one of the heaviest ever brought from Japan to America. The goods will take five cars for transportation to the East, baggage cars that will be attached to passenger trains leaving Seattle to-day.

BRINGS GENERAL CARGO.

In addition to the items of silk and fire-crackers the *Kaga Maru* brought in an assortment of mutton, tea, bamboo poles, porcelain, rice, carious, straw, millinery and an assortment of Chinese wares. The cargo aggregates 4,800 tons weight, an increase of approximately 1,000 tons over the registered tonnage of the vessel.

Sixty-seven passengers from the *Kaga Maru* were disembarked in Seattle. Of the list twenty were cabin travellers and forty-seven Oriental stevedores. The stevedores carried an unusually large number of Japanese women, who will be examined by immigration officials to-day as to their right to enter this country. Among the cabin passengers were Lieut. Alfred E. Hall, of the British navy, from Hongkong, en route for London, and Miss Hall; George Franklin, a prominent merchant of Helena, Mont.; Mr. and Mrs. "Charlie" Perkins of Shanghai; Danroku Shono, a member of the engineering corps of the Japanese government, and D. Ikuno, a Japanese railway manager, who comes to study American methods of transportation.

The Chinese Engineering & Mining Company announce that the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ending October 31st, 1908, amounted to 23,550 tons and the sales during the period to 23,570 tons.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

SHATIN AND TAIPO STATION BUILDINGS.

As showing the progress made with the construction of the Kowloon-Canton Railway a tender appearing in the current issue of the *Government Gazette* is interesting. It invites bids for the building of the Shatin and Tai-po railway station buildings. Drawings, specifications and full particulars including the date at which the tenders must be deposited in the Colonial Secretary's Office will be given on application at the office of the Chief Resident Engineer, Kowloon. The Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

THE ANTI-OPIMUM CAMPAIGN.

DRASTIC REGULATIONS.

The Ministry of the Interior is drawing up a memorial to the Throne to the effect that as soon as the regulations for the authorized sale of prepared opium have been sanctioned by Imperial decree the crime of possessing illicit opium, prepared and in the gross, shall be made the same as that for possessing secret stores of arms and ammunition, the punishment for which means either death or perpetual imprisonment.—N. C. D. News.

THE RECENT RIOTS.

ACTION BY JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.

The *Osaka Jiji* publishes a Tokyo dispatch to the effect that the disturbance in Hongkong has been suppressed by the troops and the waters scattered. News having been received by the Japanese Government that signs of unrest were becoming apparent among the people in Amoy and other ports of China, Mr. Min, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, held a conference on the afternoon of the 6th instant with Mr. Kurachi, Director of the Political Bureau, Mr. Hagiwara, Director of the Commercial Bureau, and other officials in the Foreign Office, as a result of which telegraphic instructions were dispatched to Mr. Ijima, Japanese Minister to Peking, and the Consuls at Shanghai, Amoy, Canton, and Hongkong. In consequence of the Hongkong disturbance, unrest is prevailing in Canton, and trade is depressed.

CURIOUS STATEMENT REGARDING ITS POSSIBLE ORIGIN.

The Tokyo correspondent of the *Osaka Asahi* learns that the recent disturbance in Hongkong in connection with the boycott of Japanese goods originated partly in the foolish and aggravating speech of a college lecturer in Tokyo. Recently, it is alleged, a lecturer whose name is given, belonging to the Nishiki-cho branch of the Meiji Law College, of Tokyo, delivered a speech continued over two sessions before an audience of some thirty Chinese students of the college, dealing with his journey in China. The speaker strongly denounced the present condition of affairs in China, and emphasised in vivid terms the bad customs and manners in vogue among the Chinese. So reckless was the speech that the audience were filled with resentment and forwarded details of the remarks made to Hongkong. It was there published on the 21st ultimo in the *Yankee* and *Asahi*, a Chinese journal in Hongkong, when it aroused intense indignation among the Chinese inhabitants of the colony, who resolved to retaliate upon the Japanese for the speech. The Tokyo correspondent of the *Osaka Journal* quotes the following extract from notes of the speech taken by one of the audience:—

"I have crossed the Pacific three times and left my footprints on the soil of more than ten countries in Europe and America. During the last summer vacation of over forty days I visited myself of the opportunity of visiting the vast old Empire of China. The political corruption and the low character and condition of life among the Chinese I found to be worse than I had expected. The Chinese are quite indifferent to health, their houses are low, damp, and filthy in the extreme, and have an offensive smell. During my visit to America three years ago I had occasion to see some Red Indians. I thought they were the most degraded race to be found. In visiting China, I found the Chinese to be lower than the American Indians. One day I saw in the street of a Chinese town a young girl apparently 17 or 18 years of age, attired in a rich silk dress, her face and head adorned with cosmetic powder and hairpins. She looked a dignified young lady of high standing. Yet she was seen to dispense with a handkerchief when cleaning her nose and afterwards to rub her fingers on her dress (the speaker illustrated the action by gestures). If this is the condition of the upper classes, the rest can be inferred. The sense of shame is wanting in the Chinese. They are content to be the slaves of Europeans. On arriving at Tientsin, I saw a party of young Chinese men, respectively dressed in ceremonial costume, with feathered fans in their hands, who had come to meet passengers. I thought they were Government officials. Afterwards I learned to my surprise that they were servants at foreign hotels. I saw a European alighting from a jinrikisha at a certain point. When he paid the fare the rikishaman (a Chinese) complained that it was insufficient and followed the passenger, demanding more. The European refused to pay any more and eventually dealt the man a blow with his fist. Had the Chinese any self-respect, he would have protested against the action of the European; instead of which he made a grovelling apology and went away. Can such a man be regarded as a human being? The Chinese army is said to be imitating the Japanese army; but Chinese soldiers are utterly devoid of discipline. They coil up their pitgalls on top of their heads, thus making their appearance ridiculous and exciting laughter. I saw some Chinese troops at the end of the march, their lines were most irregular, only to be compared with the wriggling of a snake. When a certain command in evolution was given, some would go to the left and others to the right, confusion resulting beyond description. In these matters, above all things, if the Chinese want to parallel Japanese in the path of progress, they should try to know themselves better before attempting to satisfy such an ambition. The Chinese police force also claims to be modelled on the Japanese police, but they are worse than the army."

At this point one of the students attempted to withdraw from the room, but he was detected by the speaker, who pulled him back, calling him a fool.—*Japan Chronicle*.

A BLANK SESSIONS.

NO CASE SET DOWN FOR TRIAL.

The November Criminal Sessions was opened by Mr. Justice Goppert last Wednesday. There was not a single case set down on the calendar for trial. The Attorney-General, in informing his Lordship that the sessions was a blank page, said:—I am glad to inform you that no indictment has been filed for the present session. There are no cases for trial. The Police Judge bowed and retired. In view of the fact that no white gloves were presented does not show that crime in the Colony is on the downward grade.

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BASEBALL.

LOCAL COMMITTEE FORMED.

A meeting was held last Thursday evening in the office of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. of those interested in the visit of the Reach All-American Baseball Team, and arrangements were discussed and completed for the game to be played by the above mentioned team at Hongkong on December 19th.

The following were appointed a committee to take entire charge of arrangements:—Fred J. Halton, chairman, F. E. McHugh, W. S. Allen, Dr. G. W. McKean, and C. C. Osborne. It is expected that residents of Hongkong will be given a very good exhibition of the American National Game, and everything is being done to ensure a good lively game, and those familiar with baseball are looking forward with much interest to the arrival of the team.

SHIPPING SUBSIDIES IN JAPAN.

LARGE EXPENDITURE AND SMALL RETURN.

The Tokyo *Asahi* reverts to the discussion of shipping subsidies in Japan with commendable persistency. As we have seen in previous issues, writes our contemporary, the liberal disbursement of shipping subsidies by the Government in the past has resulted in a great increase in the tonnage of Japan's mercantile marine and in the amount of subsidies annually paid. But unless a check is put on the over-expanding subsidies Japan's finance will come to grief on the rocks formed by the assisted vessels. If the Government is so anxious to possess a large tonnage of ships it would be better for it to buy ships with the money which is now expended in subsidies instead of protecting the shipping companies. The total amount of money that has been given in subsidies to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha since 1897, reaches more than 100 million yen, or 10 million millions. If this is added to the grants-in-aid that were made to the N.Y.K. under various names in its Mitsui Bishi and Kyodo Unyu Kaisha periods and at the earlier stages of its formation, the total will probably amount to seventy or eighty million yen. Adding interest to this amount the total subsidy paid the Nippon Yusen Kaisha alone cannot fall below 100 million yen. Yet, according to the inventory of the Company the total value of the shipping in its possession is only 22 million yen. In other words, it may be said that the Government has paid a commission of 25 millions yen in order to acquire ships worth 22 millions. If the Government had directly invested a similar amount of money in ships it would have acquired four or five times the tonnage. Moreover, when ships of the N.Y.K. were requisitioned during the war the Government had to pay a high rate of charterage beyond the subsidy to beguile in time of peace. Thus, the country was compelled to pay a double charge in chartering ships from a subsidized company.

The careless manner in which the Government has been appropriating the national funds for the purpose of shipping subsidies can hardly be realised. The amount of subsidies for the extension of shipping lines, navigation, and shipbuilding, paid annually since 1897 is as follows:—

1896	.....	Y 134,775
1897	.....	1,260,194
1898	.....	3,405,998
1899	.....	5,041,993
1900	.....	5,547,420
1901	.....	9,135,534
1902	.....	7,475,750
1903	.....	7,173,859
1904	.....	2,301,861
1905	.....	3,021,143
1906	.....	3,410,681
1907	.....	9,279,659
1908	.....	11,365,691

As shown above, the shipping subsidies paid in Japan amounted to only some ¥130,000 in 1896, but since then the amount has been rapidly increasing. A decrease took place in 1904 and 1905, owing to the war, but in 1906, on the restoration of peace, the subsidies rose to upwards of eight million yen, while in 1908 they have increased to twelve millions. Unless something is done to check this ever-growing expenditure there is no telling to what extent it will total in the next ten years. For this reason it is absolutely necessary to largely cut down, if it is impossible to entirely abolish, the special bounties for the regular lines, whose contracts expire next year. The various shipping subsidies paid by the Government since 1896, classified according to those paid on the regular lines, on the mileage navigated, and on ship-building are as follows:—

Regular Navigation.	Ship-building.
1896.....	Y 134,775
1897.....	1,260,194
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THE CHINESE BOYCOTT.

CARGO RETURNED TO JAPAN.

A considerable quantity of marine produce was sent to Hongkong from Kobe and Nagasaki by the N. Y. K. s.s. *Kumano Maru*. One hundred and fifty tons were sent from this port. The shipment was intended to test the feeling of the Chinese merchants in Hongkong regarding the boycott and the disturbances are believed to have resulted. Some of the goods were brought back to Japan by the N. Y. K. s.s. *Yawata Maru*, which arrived here last Sunday, says the *Kobe Herald* of 7th inst.

THE WRECKED "NEW ORLEANS."

Propped up for many weeks in dry dock at Taijoug Pagar, the steamer *New Orleans* has been left severely alone pending negotiations respecting repairs.

Since she arrived in the Colony, from the Pulau Laut Straits, in tow of the salvage steamer *Proctor*, there has been much controversy over repairs that would be necessary to render her seaworthy after the severe bumping and scraping she received on the rocks of Butarua. It is understood that a decision has now been arrived at, and the vessel may be seen shortly lying at anchor in the neighbourhood of the *Northam*.—*Straits Times*.

THE CRITIC CRITICIZED.

HONGKONG ENGINEER ON HILL RAILWAY.

The *Straits Echo* writes editorially—We understand that it is the intention of Government, with the \$100,000 voted on the Pinnau Hill Railway, to obtain further expert opinion as to the cost of partially re-constructing the line. Mr. A. Denison, M. INST. C.E., whose report on the undertaking was only recently published, estimates that an expenditure of \$100,000 would be necessary to put the railway in working order—a comparatively small sum considering the importance of the work not only to Pinnau but to the Colony and the neighbouring states, and having regard to the fact that the undertaking is certain to prove a financial success. We venture to assert, however, that Mr. Denison's report on the existing railway would have been considerably modified had he been taken the trouble to inquire from engineers on the spot the difficulties they had to encounter in laying down the line. Much of his criticism is based on the assumption that the line was completed, which it never was, and we may mention that almost all the recommendations embodied in his report would have been carried out if the undertaking had been ever finished.

Mr. Denison begins his report by stating that the line of the railway was badly chosen both at the bottom and at the top, where there are several unnecessary curves. The obvious reply to that is that the Company had no choice in the matter. They were compelled by landowners, who demanded exorbitant prices for their land, to do the best they could. It was merely a question of money, and the line chosen was the best possible with the money they had at their disposal. Again, it is pointed out in the report that the rails in use would not be heavy enough for heavier carriages than those proposed. The engineers who laid down the line had thought of that too, and it was their intention, when the traffic increased and more accommodation became necessary, not to increase the size of the carriage but to add to the number, so that the weight on each wheel would not be increased. Mr. Denison finds fault with the sleepers, joints and fastenings as being too light, but these are India State pattern sleepers and are used all over India. He adds that the rollers are far too many in number, a fact which the company found out long ago, for at the last test no less than two-thirds of the rollers were taken out and left by the side of the track. Moreover, it is not a fact that the "pulleys" held down by split pins; they are held down by "screwed nuts" and so adjusted that it is not possible for the rope to get jammed.

Under the heading "System and Motive Power" Mr. Denison states:—

The power supplied is from a pair of Pelton water wheels with 14 inch nozzles, one working each way, fed by four-inch steel pipes 1,500 feet long from a small tank at an elevation of between 900 feet and 1,000 feet above the wheels.

Mr. Denison seems to have got his figures all wrong here, for the steel pipe, which is exactly 5,335 ft. long, is actually 41 inches in diameter, and the elevation of the tank above the wheel is not between 900 ft. and 1,000 ft., but between 900 ft. and 1,450 ft.—a considerable difference it will be seen. He says that it is impossible for him to test the actual effective head of water, but he estimated it at about 700 ft. Now the actual head happens to be nearly double his estimate—less than 1,335 ft. to be exact. When the wheels were working with the nozzles full open and water flowing to its full capacity the effective head (by-gone) was 1,350 ft. The theoretical efficiency, with the corrected figures, would be not 10 horse power, but 40 horse power, and the power necessary to work the line would be considerably over the power supplied, but it is a fact that the power actually supplied is 40 horse power, and the line without the assistance of the other car coming down at the same time. If the existing machinery could do that it is obvious that the power was not far wrong.

FIRE.
At about half-past twelve o'clock yesterday, a fire occurred in Tsang Sha, which completely destroyed a couple of houses.

on the right Germany 1.791 try
 Silver 23 1/16 w
 Bank of England rate 2 1/2 th
 Gold 11.00 da

and means for the speedy completion of the railway. The conference was to last two days, beginning on 12th inst.

11. The following information is provided for the year ended 31 December 2014:

erent one sterling London musical
each season in the "outposts of the
and his ambition in this is rendered
of realisation by the keen desire of
to see the magical sights of India,
land of Japan.

St. Simons, K. Mays; Frisco, Edw. L. Eberich.
November—Glenroy, T. Demery; Jason
November—Custer, Tamba Mack; Joth
November—Flintshire, Calky; 18th North
Coloma, Moss; 6th November—Bance,
November—Mullens, Fremington.

HONGKONG AVERAGE MARKET PRICES.

Corrected 10th November, 200 cts. per 5 lbs.

BUTCHER MEAT.

	Cents.
Beef—Prime cut—Mei Lung Pa	18
" Corned—Ham Ngau Yuk	18
" Roast—Shiu	18
" Breast—Ngau Lam	18
" Soup—Tong Yuk	18
" Steak—Ngau Yuk Pa	18
" Sirloin—Ngau Lau	18
" Sausages—Ngau Yuk Ching	18
Bullock's Brain—Know	10
" Tongue fresh—Ngau Li	10
" Corned—Ham Ngau Li	10
" Head—Ngau Tan	10
" Heart—Ngau Sum	10
" Hump—Salt—Ngau Kin	10
" Feet—Ngau Keok	10
" Kidneys—Ngau Yiu	10
" Tail—Ngau Mei	10
" Liver—Ngau Con	10
" Tripo (unadressed)—Ngau To	10
Calves' Head and Feet—Ngau chah-tau-keok	10
Mutton Chop—Young Pal Kwat	10
" Leg—Young Pei	10
" Shoulder—Young Shau	10
Pigs' Chittlings—Chi chong	10
" Brails—Chi Know	10
" Feet—Chi Keok	10
" Fry—Chi Chak	10
" Head—Chi Tau	10
" Heart—Chi Sum	10
" Kidneys—Chi Yiu	10
" Liver—Chi Koo	10
Pork Chop—Chi Pal Kwat	10
" Corned—Ham Chu Yuk	10
" Leg—Chi Pei	10
" Fat or Lard—Chu Yau	10
Sheep's Head and Feet—Young Tau	10
" Head—Young Sum	10
" Kidneys—Young Yiu	10
" Liver—Young Con	10
Sucking Pigs, To Order—Chi Chah	10
Suet Beef—Sung Ngau Yau	10
Mutton—Sung Young Yau	10
Veal—Ngau Chai Yuk	10
Sausages—Ngau Chai Yuk Tong	10

POULTRY.

	Cents.
Chicken—Kai Chai	10
Oposon, Large, Small—Siu Kai	10
Doves—Pan Kau	10
Eggs, Hen—Kai Tan	10
Fowls, Canton—Kai	10
" Hainan—Hoi Nam Kai	10
Geese—Ngo	10
Geese, Wild Shanghai—Sheung Hoi Ye	10
Ngo	10
Mask Deer—Wong Keng	10
Hare—To Chai	10
Partridge—Che Khoo	10
Pheasant—Shan Kai	10
Pigeons, Canton—Pak Kup	10
" Holbow—Holbow Pak Kup	10
Quail—Um Chiu	10
Rice Birds—Wo Fa Chien	10
Salpe—Sa Chai	10
Turkeys, Cock—Fo Kai Kung	10
" Hen—Na	10
Wild Ducks, Shanghai, Salap	10
Teal, Shanghai, Salap	10
Wild Ducks Canton—Sung Shing Salap	10

FISH.

	Cents.
Barbel—Ka Yu	10
Bream—Bin Yu	10
Canton Fresh Water Fish—Hoi Bin Yu	10
Carp—Li Yu	10
Crabs—Chik Yu	10
Goldfish—Mun Yu	10
Grabs—Hoi	10
Gutle Fish—Muk Yu	10
Dab—Sa Mang Yu	10
Dice—Wong Mei Lun	10
Dog Fish—Tik Yu	10
Kale, Congo—Hoi Man Yu	10
" Fresh water—Tam Sul Yu	10
" Yellow—Wong Siu	10
Frogs—Tien Kai	10
Gardopa—Sak Pan	10
Gardopa—Pak Pan Yu	10
Herring—Tao Pak	10
Halibut—Cheung Kwan Yu	10
Labrus—Wong Yu	10
Loach—Wu Yu	10
Lobsters—Lung Ha	10
Mackerel—Chi Yu	10
Monk Fish—Mun Yu	10
Mullet—Chai Yu	10
Oysters—Sung Hoi	10
Parrotfish—Kai Kung Yu	10
Perch—Tao Loo	10
Pike—Fa Pau Poong	10
Plaice—Pan Yu	10
Pomfret, Black—Hak Chong	10
Pomfret, White—Pak Chong	10
Prawns—Ming Ha	10
Ray—Pai Pa Sa	10
Rock Fish—Sak Kau Kung	10
Shark—Sa Yu	10
Shrimp—Ma Yu	10

	Cents.
Shark—Sa Yu	10
Skate—Po Yu	10
Shrimp—Ma Yu	10
Snapper—Lap Yu	10
Soles—Tat Sa Yu	10
Tench—Wan Yu	10
Turbot—Cho Hoi Yu	10
Turtles, small, fresh water—Kook Yu	10
White Bait—Ngau Yu Chai	10

FRUITS.

	Cents.
Almond—Hung Yau	10
Apples, (California)—Kam San Ping	10
" (Chifpo)—Tin Chun Ping	10
" Small—Hoi Tong	10
" Onward—Fan Lai Chai	10
Bananas, fragrant, Canton—Sung Sheng	10
" (bridges), Macao—San Heng Chai	10
Chickens, Chinese—Fong Lai	10
Coconuts—Yung Tou	10
Cocoanuts—Yeh Tai	10
Grapes—Siu Tai Tai	10
Lemons, China—Ning Moong	10
" Amer.—Kam San Ning Moong	10
Lichees, Small Stone—Lai Chi Con	10
" Fresh, Lai Chi	10
Limes, (Santon)—Sal Kung Ning	10
Moong, (Santon)—Sal Kung Ning	10
Mango, (Santon)—Lui Sung Moong	10
Mango, (Santon)—Sal Kung Moong	10
Mangosteens, San Chuk Tai per 100	10
Oranges, Tim Chang	10
" Small—Tai Kut	10
" Mandarin—Tim Kut	10
Olives—Pak Lam	10
Pastion Fruit	10
Pears, (American)—Kam San Shui Li	10
" (Canton), Cooking—Sa Li	10
" (Shanghai)—Sheung Hoi Li	10
Peanuts, Fa Sang	10
Persimmons, Large—Hung Chai	10
Pine-apples, 1st quality—Sheung Poon	10
" 2nd quality—Chung-tang	10
" 3rd quality—Chung-tang	10
Platans—Tai Chiu	10
Plums, Swatow—Hung Lai	10
Pomeles, Stam—Chin Lo Yau	10
Walnuts, Hop Tou	10
" Green—Sung Hop Tou	10
Shanghai Lo Kwai	10

VEGETABLES, &c.

	Cents.
Artichokes, Shanghai—Sheung Hoi Ah	10
Chai Chai	10
Beans, (French) Macao—Oh Moon Pin	10
Beans, (French), Shanghai—Sheung Hoi	10
Beans, Sprout—Ah Chai	10
Beans, Long—Tau Kok	10
Broad Beans—Cheng Yuen Ker	10
Broad Beans, Red—Hung Ker	10
Brassica—Pak Choi	10
Bamboo Shoots—Chook Shun	10
Cabbage, Chinese, com.—Kai Choy	10
Cabbage, Red—Kai Lan Tau	10
Cabbage, (Shanghai)—Yeh Chai	10
Cane Shoots, bunch—Kau Shun	10
Cauliflower, Large size—Tai Yeh Chai	10
" Small—Choi-fa	10
Cauliflower, Medium size—Cheung Yeh	10
Carrots—Kam Shun	10
Celery, Chinese—Tong Kan Choy	10
Celery, English—Yung Kan Chai	10
Celery, White—Pak Yung Kan Chai	10
Chillies, Dried—Con Lat Chiu	10
" Red—Hung Fa	10
" Green—Cheng Lai Chiu	10
Curry Stuff, English—Ka Lee Choi Lio	10
Cucumbers—Cheng Kwa	10
Blister Squash—Fu Kwa	10
Garlic—Suen Tau	10
Ginger, young—Sui Tai Keung	10
" Old—Lo Keung	10
Horse Radish, Shanghai—Lik Kan	10
Indian Corn—Suk Mai	10
Lettuce—Yung Sang Choi	10
Water Chestnuts—Ma Tai	10
" Mandarin—Kwei Lum Ma Tai	10
Musk Melon	10
Mushrooms, Fresh—Sung Cho Kho	10
Onions, Bombay—Yung Chung Tau	10
" Greek—Sung Chung	10
" Shall—Sheung Hoi Chung Tau	10
" Japan—Yat Poon	10
Okra—Mo Ker	10
Parsley, English—Yung On Sal	10
Grass Pea	10
Green Peas—Cheng Tau	10
Portulaca, Sweet—Fan Shu	10
" Shanghai—Sheung Hoi Shu	10
" Japan—Yat Poon Shu	10
" American—Fa Ki	10
" Foochow—Fuk Chan Shu	10
" Macao—Oh Moon	10
Pumpkin—Toong Kwa	10
Radish—Hung Lo Pak Tsai	10
Rhubarb	10
Shallots—Con Chung Tau	10
Spinage (Chinese)—Faw Ohai	10
Spinach—Yiu Chai	10
Tomatoes—Fan Kai	10
Taro—Wu Tau	10
Turnips, Pan Li (Long)—Low Pak	10
" English—Yung Low Pak	10
Vegetable Marrow—Chit Kwa	10
Water Cress—Sal Yung Chai	10
" Caulrops—Lan Kok	10
" Lily Roots—Liu Ngau	10
Yams—Tai Shu	10

	Cents.
Sage	10
The prices necessarily vary from day to day, and the Sanitary Board has no power to compel stallholders to sell at the prices quoted.	

A. GIBSON.

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. R. S. KADOORIN & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 3.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT.	LAST DIVIDEND.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
BANKS.						
(Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation)	100,000	\$115	\$125	{ \$1,500,000 \$14,000,000 \$250,000 }	\$2,005,774 { Interim of 2s for first half year @ ex 1/4 = \$21.042 }	5 1/2 % { \$85 buyers London \$82.10 }
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	67	60	{ \$4,000 \$150,000 }	\$10,223	5s (London 3/6) for 1903
MARINE INSURANCE.						
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	{ \$1,500,000 \$222,757 \$411,990 }	none	\$14 for 1907
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	65	65	{ \$125,000 Tls. 150,000 Tls. 308,747 Tls. 118,277 }	Tls. 160,512	Final of 7/6 making 15/- for 1907
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	12,400	\$150	\$100	{ \$200,000 \$302,478 \$120,000 }	\$2,506,011	{ Final of 5s making 54s for 1906 and Interim of 3s for 1907 }
FIRE INSURANCE.						
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	12,000	\$100	\$60	{ \$1,000,000 \$100,000 \$100,000 }	\$591,763	\$12 and bonus 5s for 1906
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$10	{ \$1,000,000 \$146,097 \$13,803 }	\$372,422	\$6 and bonus 2s for 1906
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$150	\$50	{ \$1,000,000 \$13,803 }	\$428,037	\$27 for 1906
SHIPPING.						
China and Manilla Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$7,000 \$104,688 \$99,007 }	\$1,035	5s for 1906
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$50,000 \$57,500 \$81,766 }	Nil.	12s for year ending 30.6.1908
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$15	\$15	{ \$100,000 \$17,655 \$10,000 }	\$17,255	5s for first half-year ending 30.6.1908
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Preferred)	60,000	65	65	{ \$100,000 \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$13,755	{ 6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/9 11/16 = 5s. 15d }
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Deferred)	60,000	65	65	{ \$100,000 \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$13,755	{ Final of 1/- making 3/- for 1907 and in- terim of 1/- (No. 10) for a/c 1908 }
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 75,000 Tls. 75,000 Tls. 75,000 }	Tls. 14,510	Interim of Tls. 14 for account 1908
Shell Transport and Trading Company, Limited	2,000,000	61	61	{ \$1,000,000 \$1,000,000 \$1,000,000 }	\$68,817	{ Final of 1/- (No. 10) for a/c 1908 }
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	{ \$10,000 \$1,000 \$1,000 }	\$98	{ 30.50 for year ending 30.6.1908 }
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 140,000 Tls. 60,355 Tls. 100,000 }	Tls. 6,869	Final of Tls. 24 making Tls. 5 for 1907
REFINERIES.						
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	70,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$25,000 \$25,000 \$25,000 }	Dr. \$279,371	28 for year ending 31.12.05
Indo-Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$100,000 \$100,000 \$100,000 }	Dr. \$135,193	5s for 1907
Indo-Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 100,000 Tls. 100,000 Tls. 100,000 }	Tls. 9,173	Tls. 4 (8 1/2) for year ending 31.6.06
MINING.						
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	1,000,000	61	61	{ \$1,750,000 \$1,750,000 \$1,750,000 }	\$14,556	{ Final of 1/6 (coupon No. 11) for year end- ing 29.2.08 }
Robt Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	150,000	61	61	{ \$1,750,000 \$1,750,000 \$1,750,000 }	Dr. \$4,191	{ No. 11 (coupon No. 11) for year end- ing 29.2.08 }
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.						
Swire (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$15	\$15	{ \$55,000 \$55,000 \$55,000 }	\$3,726	\$1.75 for year ending 31.12.06
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$150,000 \$150,000 \$150,000 }	\$3,556	Final of 1/6 making 5s for 1907
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$150,000 \$150,000 \$150,000 }	\$3,556	Final of 1/6 making 5s for 1907
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	15,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 1,000,000 }	Tls. 3,726	Interim of Tls. 4 for account 1908
Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company, Limited	16,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 607,357 Tls. 75,000 Tls. 125,000 }	Tls. 23,626	Interim of Tls. 4 for account 1908
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.						
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 25,000 Tls. 25,000 Tls. 25,000 }	Tls. 6,531	Tls. 6 for 1907
Victor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	30,000	\$15	\$15	{ \$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000 }	Dr. \$1,200	\$24 for year ending 30.6.07
Central Stores, Limited	10,000	\$15	\$15	{ \$15,000 \$15,000 \$15,000 }	\$1,200	\$1.80 for 1906
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$60,000 \$60,000 \$60,000 }	\$14,639	Interim of 5s for account 1908
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$100,000 \$100,000 \$100,000 }	\$16,015	Interim of 5s for account 1908
Empire Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$150,000 \$150,000 \$150,000 }	\$4,621	70 cents for 1907
Swire Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$300,000 \$300,000 \$300,000 }	\$653	\$12 for 1907
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 1,530,045 Tls. 170,000 Tls. 1,700,000 }	Tls. 107,547	Interim of Tls. 5 for account 1908
East Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	{ \$125,000 \$125,000 \$125,000 }	\$1,541	Interim of 5s for account 1908
COTTON MILLS.						
Woo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 150,000 Tls. 150,000 Tls. 150,000 }	Tls. 8,807	Tls. 24 for year ending 31.12.1907
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$1,250,000 \$1,250,000 \$1,250,000 }	\$19,553	50 cents for year ending 31.7.08
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	{ Tls. 150,000 Tls. 150,000 Tls. 150,000 }	Tls. 8,519	Tls. 6 for year ending 30.6.08 (8 1/2)
Woo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 150,000 Tls. 150,000 Tls. 150,000 }	Tls. 6,308	Tls. 3 for 1906
Woo Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	3,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	{ Tls. 28,357 Tls. 28,357 Tls. 28,357 }	Tls. 50,663	Tls. 50 for 1906
MISCELLANEOUS.						
Asia-Pacific Eastern Agency, Limited	8,000	12 1/2	12 1/2	{ \$1,500 \$1,500 \$1,500 }	\$648	1/10 per share for 1907 = \$1.037
Asia-Pacific Eastern Agency, Limited	8,000	12 1/2	12 1/2	{ \$1,500 \$1,500 \$1,500 }	Nil.	\$1.20 for 1907
Asia-Pacific Eastern Agency, Limited	8,000	12 1/2	12 1/2	{ \$1,500 \$1,500 \$1,500 }	\$61,138	60 cents for year ending 28.2.06
Asia-Pacific Eastern Agency, Limited	8,000	12 1/2	12 1/2	{ \$1,500 \$1,500 \$1,500 }	\$13,591	80 cents for 1907
Asia-Pacific Eastern Agency, Limited	8,000	12 1/2	12 1/2	{ \$1,500 \$1,500 \$1,500 }	\$48	\$1.50 for year ending 31.7.08
Asia-Pacific Eastern Agency, Limited	8,000	12 1/2	12 1/2	{ \$1,500 \$1,500 \$1,500 }	\$5,078	Interim of 40 cents for account 1908
Asia-Pacific Eastern Agency, Limited	8,000	12 1/2	12 1/2	{ \$1,500 \$1,500 \$1,500 }	\$251	

Mails.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD,

BREMEN.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
KUDAT and SANDAKAN	"BORNEO" Capt. F. Sembill	TUESDAY, 9 A.M., 24th November.
NAPLES, GENOA, ALGIERS, GIBRALTAR, SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP and HAMBURG	"PRINZ LUDWIG" Capt. F. v. Binzer	WEDNESDAY, Noon, 2nd December.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	"HUELLO" Capt. H. Formes	About WEDNESDAY, 2nd December.
MANILA, YAP, NEWGUINEA, BRISBANE, SYDNEY & MELBOURNE	"MANILA" Capt. J. Minssen	THURSDAY, 5 P.M., 3rd December.

For further Particulars, apply to

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

MELCHERS & CO.,

GENERAL AGENTS, HONGKONG & CHINA.

Hongkong, 20th November, 1908.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL LINES.

FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE TO and FROM EUROPE via SUEZ CANAL.
TO and FROM JAPAN via SHANGHAI.

FOR	STEAMERS	CAPTAINS	TO SAIL ON
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	DUMBEA	Boyer	23rd Nov. P.M.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS	TOURANE	Lancelin	24th Nov. at 1 P.M.
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	ERNEST SIMONS	Girard	7th Dec. P.M.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS	ARMAND BEHIC	Guionnet	8th Dec. at 1 P.M.

Transshipment on the Co.'s Steamers at Singapore for Batavia via Colombo for Calcutta, Bombay and Australia; at Port Said for the Levant, Constantinople and Black Sea.

Through Tickets to London via Paris from £17.10 up to £71.10. 20 hours' railway from Marseilles to London.

Interpreters meet passengers at their arrival in Marseilles.

For further particulars, apply to

P. NALIN,

ACTING AGENT,

QUEEN'S BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 10th November, 1908.

CHARGEURS REUNIS.

FRENCH STEAMSHIP Co.—HEAD OFFICE: PARIS.

ALL ROUND THE WORLD LINE.

Outward: ANTWERP, DUNKIRK, LA PALICE, MARSEILLES, GENOA, NAPLES, COLOMBO, VIA SUEZ, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, CHIN-WANTAO (Peking, Tientsin), KOBE, YOKOHAMA.
GENOA TO HONGKONG in 30 DAYS.
NAPLES 29

Unique opportunity to make a tour in North-China and Japan with the Greatest Speed, Safety and Comfort.

Trans-Pacific: VICTORIA (B.C.), VANCOUVER, SEATTLE, SAN FRANCISCO.

Connecting with the Canadian Pacific Railway.

FREIGHT TO OVERLAND via VANCOUVER.

PASSENGERS TO OVERLAND AND EUROPE via VANCOUVER.

YOKOHAMA—VANCOUVER 13 DAYS.

LONDON and PARIS 26

Homeward: MEXICO, RIVER PLATE, BRAZIL, LA PALICE, LIVERPOOL, VIA MAGELLAN STRAITS.

Proposed Sailings:

CORSE 26th Nov. AMIRAL DUPERRÉ 11th Jan. 1909.

AMIRAL MAGOM 4th March.

New Twin Screw 16,000 Tons displacement, 1st class accommodation, splendidly equipped with single berth cabins.

Intermediate class and rates of passage.

All round the world ticket by these boats, &c.

For further Particulars, apply to

P. NALIN, FRENCH MAIL OFFICE.

Hongkong, 11th November, 1908.

WEST RIVER BRITISH STEAMSHIP COMPANIES.

HONGKONG-WUOHOW LINE.

THE Steamers "LINTAN" and "SAN-UI"

SAIL FROM HONGKONG TWICE A WEEK AND COMPLETE THE ROUND TRIP IN 4 DAYS.

These steamers have Excellent Saloon Accommodation, and are Lighted Throughout by Electricity.

THE CLIMATE ON THE WEST-RIVER DURING THE WINTER MONTHS IS VERY FINE AND EXHILIRATING.

For further information apply to—

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

AGENTS, WEST RIVER BRITISH S.S. COMPANIES.

Hongkong, 20th Nov. 1908.

Intimation.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

No. 1 DOCK.

Length inside 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft.; bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

No. 2 DOCK.

Length inside, 375 ft. Width of entrance, top 60.5 ft. bottom 45.8 ft. Water on blocks, 26.5 ft. Time to pump out, 3 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyd's surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Tugboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 55 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nos. 378, 508, or 681.

Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. C. 4th and 5th Edt.

Liebers, Scotts, A. 1, and Watkins.

Yokohama, May 23rd, 1905.

Shipping—Steamers.

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

REGULAR THREE-WEEKLY SERVICE
BETWEEN
JAVA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave for	On or about
TJIMAH	AMOV	Second half Nov.	JAVA	Second half Nov.
TJILATJAP	—	—	JAVA	Second half Nov.
TJIBODAS	JAPAN	First half Dec.	JAVA	First half Dec.
TJIPANAS	JAVA	First half Dec.	SHANGHAI	First half Dec.
TJILIWONG	JAVA	First half Dec.	JAPAN	First half Dec.
TJIKINI	JAVA	First half Jan.	JAPAN	First half Jan.

The Steamers are all fitted throughout with Electric Light and have Accommodation for a limited number of Saloon Passengers, and will take Cargo to all Netherland India Ports on through Bills of Lading.

For Particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

Telephone No. 375,
YORK BUILDINGS, 1st floor,
Hongkong, 20th November, 1908.

MESSAGERIES CANTONNAISES.

FRENCH LINE OF STEAMERS BETWEEN HONGKONG, CANTON AND KOUANG-SI.

S.S. "PAUL BEAD," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.
S.S. "CHARLES HARDOUN," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.

The speediest, most luxuriously appointed and punctual steamers on the line.

Departure from Hongkong at 10 P.M. (Saturdays excepted).

Departure from Canton at 5.15 P.M. (Sundays excepted).

These superb steamers carrying the French Mail are fitted throughout with Electric Light and Fans and were specially built for this trade. Excellent cuisine.

The Company's Own Wharf near Wing Lok Street and its berth in Canton opposite Shamceen.

For further particulars, please apply to the COMPANY'S OFFICE at Shamceen, Canton, or to their Agents

BARRETTO & CO., Hongkong.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1908.

SAINT-RAPHAEL

TONIC, RESTORATIVE, DIGESTIVE WINE
Very palatable.

Known throughout the world and prescribed in all cases of Anæmia, Debility and Convalescence, to young women, children and the aged. Invaluable in hot climates.

DOSE: One wine-glass after the two principal meals.

Each bottle of genuine VIN SAINT-RAPHAEL bears, in addition to the registered trade-mark:

(1) THE WARRANTY STAMP OF THE UNION DES PROPRIETAIRES.

(2) A METAL SEAL advertising CLETEAS.

CLETEAS is a MELISSA and MINT cordial which surpasses all others by its purity and faultless preparation. To be taken on a lump of sugar.

COMPAGNIE DU VIN SAINT-RAPHAEL, Valence (Drôme-France).

CALOBBOK MACHREDO & Co., Hongkong.

LONDON'S GREATEST LENDING LIBRARY.

Mudie's great lending library is something more than a library; it is one of the sights of London and almost worthy to rank with the Tower or the British Museum. It finds a place in every guide book, not merely as a place at which books of all times, of all countries and in all languages may be borrowed, but as an institution to be seen and to be wondered at.

In its way it is more wonderful than the colossal book collection at the British Museum itself, the second library in the world. The British Museum does not lend its books. Its marvels must be consumed on the premises, and therefore as a complex organization it becomes almost insignificant in comparison with that of Mr. Mudie, whose hands, metaphorically speaking, are forever stretched out to give and to receive back, and who is just as solicitous for the literary welfare of the smallest village in England and indeed of the British colonies as for that of London itself. Mudie's is the nerve thread that connects the humblest and the poorest of readers with the stored up intellect of the world. Mr. Mudie can at least disclaim all responsibility for popular ignorance, for it would perhaps be no exaggeration to say no man since the world began has done more to dispel it.

It is fortunately easy to give a few figures that show at a glance the magnitude of Mudie's operations. Where the ordinary local library buys from one to five copies of a new book Mudie's will buy a thousand. Of Mrs. Humphrey Ward's last novel, "Lady Rose," Mudie's purchased 3,339 copies in order that no applicant might receive the chilling rebuff of "Book out." Fancy 3,339 copies of a single novel all bought by the same library and all of them to be lent to those who pay only a few cents for the privilege of the loan! Here are some other figures showing the orders received from Mudie's by the publishers of some recent literature:—

	Copies.
"Lady of Rome," by F. M. Crawford	1,560
"Paul," by E. F. Benson	1,640
"Chippings," by Stanley Weyman	1,640
"Sophy of Kravonia," by Anthony Hope	1,600
"Marriage of William Ashie," by Mrs. H. Ward	3,200
"Feawick's Career," by Mrs. H. Ward	2,080
"Master Christian," by Marie Corelli	3,060
"Temporal Power," by Marie Corelli	3,143
Stanley's "Darkest Africa"	3,000
"Sheaves," by E. F. Benson	1,300

Thus thirteen works alone represent an addition to Mudie's book shelves of 25,180 volumes. And new books are published every day, and, practically every one of them, is bought by Mudie's in varying quantities, according to the anticipated demand. They are bought in order that they may be lent, and every loan implies a registration, a watchful eye upon the due return of the book, an examination of its condition, possibly its repair, and then its replacement upon the shelves. Add the loan department is but one of many.

There are three ways in which the benefits of Mudie's library may be enjoyed. The simplest way is to go to the head office or to one of the two branches and pay an annual subscription of £2.50. You may then have any modern book that you select; you may take it away with you without leaving any other security than name and address, and you may bring it back when you will and exchange it. For £2.50 annually you may have a new book six times a week. But suppose it be not convenient to personally attend at the office. In that case Mudie's will deliver the books at your house, calling for them every week and leaving a fresh batch in exchange. Suppose you live twenty miles from London, and, being an omnivorous reader, you like to have ten books always on hand to suit the changing tastes of the hour. In that case you can pay an annual subscription of about £5 and you furnish the library with a long list of the books that you would like to read. Every week the library van will be at your door and ten volumes will be handed you. You simply give to the attendant whatever books have been read, and you retain a like number of the new arrivals and hand back the remainder to be tendered again on the following week. When your list has been nearly exhausted you will receive a notification to that effect, with a request for a new list. There is no need to consult a catalogue, because, broadly speaking, whatever book appears on the publisher's list is in Mudie's.

The interests of the country subscriber are no less solicitously cared for. In fact, he pays a little less because he will probably ask for fewer books, or in larger parcels, and he will change them less frequently. Moreover, the borrower pays the carriage, and this is considerably remembered in the subscription schedule. A customer in Manchester, for instance, may take his choice from nearly a million works, and he may have fifteen at a time to be changed, in whole or in part, as often as he wishes, for an annual subscription of about £5. If he be willing to exclude books quite newly published he may have his steady supply of fifteen volumes at a time for about £5 a year. A slightly higher rate may be made to include carriage both ways. There is still another rate, and a very low one, for those who want foreign books only—that is to say, books in a foreign language—while juvenile needs are cared for by a special department, with "subscription-rates" corresponding with juvenile incomes. Country libraries are also invited to state their requirements in the way of large parcels of books, and special terms will be made for their constant supply.—New York Herald.

FOR SALE.

A FULL-GROWN CHINA TIGER, recently trapped in the neighbourhood of Canton.

For further particulars apply by letter to—

C. P. K.,
C/o Hongkong Telegraph.

Hongkong, 17th November, 1908. [995]

Public Company

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

AN INTERIM DIVIDEND on Account of the year 1908, of Thirty Cents per share, will be payable at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Hongkong, on and after FRIDAY, 27th November, 1908, on Warrants to be obtained at the Company's Office.

The Dividend will also be payable at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Shanghai, on and after the same date.

The REGISTER OF SHARES will be CLOSED from TUESDAY, the 24th instant, until MONDAY, the 30th instant, both days inclusive, during which period no Transfer of Shares will be effected.

JOHN D. HUMPHREY & SON,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 17th November, 1908. [997]

Intimations.

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LD.

(CAPITAL PAID UP \$1,250,000)

Loans on Mortgage of House Property, &c. Goods received on Storage. Advances made on Merchandise. Loans made on the Provident System. (Rates and Particulars on application).

THE OFFICE OF TRUSTEE, EXECUTOR OF WILLS, ATTORNEY, &c., Undertaken and Executed.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1908. [48]

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m.	7.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m.	9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m.	11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m.	12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
1.15 p.m.	1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m.	1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m.	2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
3.00 p.m.	3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m.	5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS.

8.45 p.m. and 9 p.m., 9.45 p.m. to 11.15 p.m. every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

8.10 a.m.	8.10 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
9.00 a.m.	9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. ... Every 30 minutes.
9.30 a.m.	9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m.	10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
11.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon ... Every 15 minutes.
12.00 noon	12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m.	1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m.	5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
6.00 p.m.	6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
7.00 p.m.	7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

SATURDAYS.

Extra cars at 3.15 p.m., 11.30 p.m. and 11.45 p.m.

SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS, Des Voeux Road Central.

JOHN D. HUMPHREY & SON,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 4th June, 1907. [100]

THERAPION MAY NOW ALSO BE OBTAINED IN DRAGON (TASTELESS) FORM.

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY.

TRADE MARK THERAPION.

This successful and highly popular remedy, used in the Continental Hospitals by Klotz, Koster, Robert, Vulp, and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of this kind, and surpasses everything hitherto employed.

THERAPION No. 1 is a remarkably short time, often a few days only, removes all the charges, effectually supersedes injections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of stricture and other serious diseases. In dysentery, piles, and inflammation of the lower bowel, cough, bronchitis, asthma, and some of the more trying complaints of this kind, it will be found astonishingly efficacious, affording prompt relief wherever the well-timed remedy has been previously employed.

THERAPION No. 2 is for the treatment of all urinary troubles, such as pain, burning, and all diseases for which it has been too much a fashion to employ mercury, arsenic, &c., for the destruction of the sufferer's health and ruin of his life. This preparation purifies the whole system through the blood, and thoroughly eliminates all poisonous matter from the body.

THERAPION No. 3 is for the treatment of all distressing consequences of dissipation, worry, overwork, early error, excess, &c. It purges the system, restores the vitality, and relieves the sufferer from the depressing influence of long residence in hot, unhealthy climates.

THERAPION is a French Preparation, and is sold by all Chemists.

Sold by all Chemists.

Dentistry.

TSIN TING.

LATEST METHODS OF DENTISTRY.

STUDIO AT NO. 14, D'ARQUILLER STREET.

REASONABLE FEE.

Consultation Free.

Hongkong, 20th June, 1904. [100]

DR. M. H. CHAUN,

THE LATEST METHOD

of the

AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY

13, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,

From the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Hongkong, 19th April, 1907. [101]

Intimation.

Powell's ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

**SMART
Tweed
and
Cloth
Costumes.**

**Serviceable
Jackets,
from \$11.50 each.**

**Golf
Jerseys,
In great variety,
from \$4.50 each.**

**Dainty
Underskirts.**

**Laces,
Ribbons,
Corsets,
Gloves,
Underwear,
Hosiery,
Shoes,
&c., &c., &c.**

**PARISIAN
MILLINERY
at
Moderate Prices.**

**POWELL'S
ALEXANDRA
BUILDINGS.**

Hongkong, 21st November, 1908.

Consignees.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"CATHERINE APCAR."

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed at once, at Consignees' risk and expense.

Cargo remaining on board after 4 P.M., of the 14th inst., will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense.

Consignees of Cargo from SINGAPORE and PENANG are requested to take IMMEDIATE DELIVERY of their Goods from alongside, such Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

DAVID SASSOON & CO., LIMITED.

Agents.

Hongkong, 12th November, 1908. [91]

"BEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "BENLOMOND,"

FROM MIDDLESBRO, ANTWERP, LONDON AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 23rd inst. will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 30th inst., or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 23rd inst., at 11 A.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 16th November, 1908. [993]

AMERICAN AND MANCHURIAN LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM NEW YORK.

THE Steamship

"MATOTO."

Captain Dormand, having arrived from the above Port, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 24th inst., at 3 P.M.

All Claims must be presented within fifteen days of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognized.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 24th inst. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 18th November, 1908. [1003]

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship

"NAMSANG."

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo, impeding the discharge or remaining on board after 4 P.M. the 20th inst., will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LD.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 18th November, 1908. [100]

FROM EUROPE.

THE H. A. L. Steamship

"SCANDIA."

Captain von Döhrn, having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature by the Undersigned and to take immediate delivery of their goods from alongside.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before 10 P.M.

Any Cargo impeding her discharge will be landed at consignees' risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognized.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 24th inst. will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 23rd inst., at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINE,

Hongkong Office.

Hongkong, 17th November, 1908. [994]

THE DECLINE IN SILVER.

CAUSE AND EFFECT.

The *Osaka Asahi*, in an article on the decline in the silver market, remarks that this year everything has been inactive. The depression has affected foreign trade, and the export of goods to China has particularly suffered. Since January the value of exports to China has fallen off month by month, and a heavy depreciation is shown as compared with last year, as may be seen from the following figures:—

	This Year.	Last Year.
January	Y5,512,359	Y4,574,974
February	5,034,985	7,022,107
March	6,782,413	7,347,969
April	6,455,406	7,448,418
May	6,224,731	9,028,251
June	5,483,916	8,124,857
July	4,927,222	7,139,366

During the period given above the silver market in London continued to decline, with considerable fluctuations in the rate of exchange on China. It is not surprising, therefore, that the trade of Japan with China is very unsatisfactory. Since July last the silver market has remained low. London advices of the 30th last month quoted the metal at 23 7/16d. This was the lowest rate on record since 1901 or 1902, when a lower rate than 22d. was recorded.

The market further declined, and on the next day (31st) stood at 23 1/16d. On the 4th inst. the rate fell to 23d. and on the 5th to below that figure, the rate of exchange on Shanghai rising to 8 1/2 taels. The *Osaka Journal* notes that diverse opinions prevail regarding the present constant fluctuation of silver.

When London advices recorded a heavy advance in the metal to 32 1/16d. last year, it was explained that the rise was due to the action of the French Government, which was buying metal for coinage, having made a further purchase of 90,000 lbs.

The depreciation in the market this year is ascribed to various causes:—(1) the decline in the demand in China and India; (2) the active speculation in silver engaged in by Indian merchants (buyers) and London merchants (sellers); (3) the increased production of silver in India on gold or copper mining; and (4) the remarkable divergence in demand between gold and silver, the demand for silver increasing at a much slower rate than that for gold. No noticeable increase has been seen of late years in the output from the silver mines of the world, but the output of silver from copper mines has increased, as the methods of working the mines have become more expert, so that it is indisputable that the production of silver has increased. It must also be admitted that the desire for gold has increased generally much more than that for silver. Moreover, the slackness in the demand for silver in China and India—a most important factor, as it influences the silver market of the world—is alone sufficient to account for the decline in the market.

The exact point of the relative value of silver to gold is exceedingly difficult to gauge; but the high rate of between 30d. and 33d. ruling the year before last and that of 31d. or 32d. quoted in the first half of last year were the highest recorded during the past decade, while the present rate—below 23d.—is the lowest recorded since 1901 or 1902. These rates are abnormal at either extreme, and it is in the natural order of things that the abnormal gives way in time to the normal. The abnormally low price of silver will be followed by a decrease of supply as a matter of course. When this occurs, the market will undoubtedly improve. The increased supply of silver of late, however, is accounted for by the increased production of the metal, and the abundant supply may be maintained longer than might be expected. In these circumstances, it may be difficult to foresee any marked improvement in the near future, unless a fresh demand for the metal is created by special circumstances.—*Japan Chronicle*.

RULES FOR JAP. CHILDREN.

An English newspaper published in Japan printed at one time an interesting synopsis of the rules which the public schools of that country were teaching their pupils on the subject of the treatment of foreigners.

This synopsis is reprinted in a recent book, "The Empire of the East," by H. B. Montgomery, and is accompanied by some interesting facts concerning the schools of Japan. The rules are as follows:—

Never call after foreigners passing along the streets or roads.

When foreigners make inquiries answer them politely. If unable to answer them understand, inform the police of the fact.

Never accept a present from a foreigner when there is no reason for his giving it, and never charge him anything above what is proper.

Do not crowd around a shop when a foreigner is making purchases, thereby causing him much annoyance. The continuance of this practice disgraces us as a nation.

Since all human beings are brothers and sisters, there is no reason for fearing foreigners. Treat them as equals and act uprightly in all your dealings with them. Be neither servile nor arrogant.

Beware of combining against the foreigner and disliking him because he is a foreigner; men are to be judged by their conduct and not by their nationality.

As intercourse with foreigners becomes closer and extends over a series of years there is danger that many Japanese may become enamoured of their ways and customs and forsake the good old customs of their forefathers. Against this danger you must be on your guard.

Taking off your hat is the proper way to salute a foreigner. The bowing of the body is not to be commended.

Hold in high regard the worship of ancestors and treat your relations with warm cordiality, but do not regard a person as your enemy because he or she is a Christian.

Beware of selling your souls to foreigners and becoming their slaves. Sell them no houses or lands.

Aim at not being beaten in your competition with foreigners. Remember that loyalty and filial piety are our most precious national treasures, and do nothing to violate them.—*How*

OPION IN CALCUTTA.

We think it is time that something should be done to check the growth of the opium habit in Calcutta. During the last official year—93 more mannds of opium were sold in this city, and opium smoking is stated to be on the increase. The Superintendent of Excise Revenue states that opium dens in Calcutta, which are now called clubs, continue to flourish and multiply. They are described as being located in places extremely difficult of access, and that only known and trusted customers are admitted. In the result opium smoking is now more freely indulged in than when these premises were under Government control, and indeed it is remarked that this evil has ceased to attract attention with the withdrawal of Government control. In addition, 479 mannds of opium were sold in Calcutta, the drug being stated to be in requisition by the increasing mill population in the city, Howrah and neighbourhood. The consumption of "siddhi" is also on the increase, and a taste for "charas" is being cultivated. Cocaine is being smuggled in increasing quantity into the city, which already rejoices in a well-established trade in morphia pills.—*Indian Daily News*.

For Sale.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 375 lbs. net \$5.50 per Cask ex Factory.

In Bags of 50 lbs. net \$8.45 per Bag ex Factory.

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,

General Managers.

Hongkong 17th August, 1908. [100]

THERAPION MAY NOW ALSO BE OBTAINED

IN DRAGON (TASTELESS) FORM.

A BROKEN-DOWN SYSTEM.

This is a condition (or disease) which doctors give many names, but which few of them really understand. It is a very common ailment, and as it is of the vital forces that sustain the system. No matter what may be its cause (for they are almost numberless), its symptoms are the same: the more prominent being sleeplessness, loss of appetite or weakness, depression, and a general feeling of being "run down." It is a condition which is not only a nuisance, but a danger to the system, and it is a condition which is not only a nuisance, but a danger to the system, and it is a condition which is not only a nuisance, but a danger to the system.

VITAL STRENGTH & ENERGY.

To throw off these morbid feelings, and escape from this condition, a course of

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY

THERAPION No. 3

must be taken in accordance with the printed directions accompanying it. It will be shipped in a secure and reliable manner.

THE EXPIRING LAMP OF LIFE

LIGHTED UP AFRESH.

and a new existence imparted in place of what has been a morbid and depressing one.

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Intimations.

HONGKONG ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

ST. ANDREW'S BALL 30th November, 1908.

and

PRACTICE DANCE,

WEDNESDAY, 25th November,

from 5 to 7 P.M.

SCOTSMEN (Naval, Military, or Members of the Civil Community) desiring to subscribe to the above are requested to forward their names to the undersigned.

No Scotsman can attend the Dance and Practices but as a Subscriber.

DAVID WOOD,

Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 18th November, 1908. [100]

INTERNATIONAL SLEEPING CAR

and

EXPRESS TRAINS Co.

(THE

GREAT TRANS SIBERIAN ROUTE

TO EUROPE.)

HAVING been appointed AGENTS for

the above Company, we shall be

pleased to give any information as to rates of

passage, &c., in connection with above.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.

Agents.

Hongkong, 21st Nov. 1908. [100]

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

CHEMISTS & DRUGGISTS,
& Co., & Co., & Co.BY APPOINTMENT TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE
GOVERNOR AND HOUSEHOLD.WATSON'S BALSAM OF ANISEED,
\$0.50 and \$1.00.A reliable remedy for all severe, acute,
chronic, and lingering coughs and colds.
Relieves hoarseness, sore throat, tickling
in the throat, and difficulty in breathing.WATSON'S COLD CURE TABLETS,
\$0.60.Speedily relieves influenza, cold in the
head, sneezing, &c.WATSON'S COUGH LOZENGES,
\$0.75.For alleviation of bronchitis, hoarseness,
coughs, asthma, colds, and disorders of
the throat and lungs.WATSON'S
WILD CHERRY COUGH SYRUP,
\$0.75.

Highly recommended.

WATSON'S EMBROGATION,
\$0.60.For colds in the chest, bronchitis, sore
throat, &c.A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS,
AND
KOWLOON DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 23rd October, 1908.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1908

CURRENCY QUESTION IN
SINGAPORE.

In previous issues of the *Telegraph* we have referred to the opposition of the unofficial members of the Legislative Council to the new Currency Note Amendment Ordinance, particularly with regard to the manner in which the gold reserve against the issue should be held. The leader of the opposition throughout has been Mr. T. S. Baker, the manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in Singapore, and a very truculent and vigorous opponent to the measure he has proved. In moving the rejection of the second reading of the Bill on the 13th inst., Mr. Baker was in his element and that his capacity as a fighting member is appreciated by his friends and admirers was shown by the presence in the "gallery" of the managers of practically all the banks having agencies in Singapore besides a large number of leading commercial men in the Settlement. People in the South are quite alive to the importance of their own interests, politically speaking, and make no pretence of being otherwise. If the same watchful attitude were to be found in Hongkong the legislative life of the Colony would be endowed with a new stimulus and would greatly assist the Government itself in arriving at a true estimate of the general feeling prevailing in the community on the burning questions of the day. But Singapore has long offered a lead to Hongkong in this respect, a lead which, however, has seldom been taken. That is by the way, of course, and we now propose to indicate briefly the points on which the unofficial members, as represented by Mr. Baker, objected to the proposals of the Government as contained in this exceedingly contentious Bill. It was claimed, at the outset, that the Bill had four main objects. The first of those was to invest the Commissioners with power to tamper with exchange by issuing notes in the Colony in exchange for gold paid to the Crown Agents in London, at a rate of not less than 2s. 4d., nor more than 2s. 4s. 1/2d. The next object was to provide for the holding, as far as possible, in London, instead of in Singapore, the note guarantee fund. The third object was to build up a gold standard reserve—a most commendable object—but instead of holding that fund in gold the intention was to invest it in securities, and that was not at all commendable.

The fourth object of the new Ordinance was to make it lawful for the Currency Commissioners to hold demonetised dollars at a false value or, in other words, at their face value in the coin portion of the currency note fund, and to hold similar demonetised dollars, not at a false value nor at their face value, but at their bullion value, or their intrinsic value in the gold standard reserve fund. After referring to two provisions in the original Ordinance to the effect that notes should be issued in Singapore in exchange for dollars in the Colony at 2s. 4d. per dollar, while the other was to issue notes in the Settlement in exchange for gold, in London, at 2s. 4s. 1/2d., with the permission of the Treasurer, Mr. Baker proceeded to suggest one or two alterations in the correspondence regarding the amendment of the Ordinance, as laid before the Council in 1903. Among the suggestions he mentioned was that the value of the single operation under section 7 (b) be altered from £50,000 to £40,000, and he proceeded to point out that the Treasurer observed that the second part of section 7 (1) was made use of only on one occasion. But he submitted that no stronger argument in favour of that section could possibly be adduced in that it had only been used once; that, so to speak, they had managed their currency affairs so well that they had only, on one occasion, reached danger point in the course of two years and a half; they had only reached, as it were, the brink of the precipice. The Treasurer deplored apparently the fact that once only had they arrived at the point which enabled him to put £40,000 in London; he would like them to be at that point continually so that all their sovereigns would be in London, yet it would be seen from the correspondence that the main object of the Treasurer was to keep exchange at 2s. 4d., and it struck him there was a great deal of inconsistency about that. Mr. Baker made a curious allusion to a bank in Singapore which, on one occasion, when its funds had fallen short of requirements and when it was called upon to disgorge money, which it was alleged was really clearing account money, with which it had been carrying on business, went to the Treasurer and made representations which were calculated to upset the currency system. It is, as will be seen, all very obscure and difficult to analyse, but no doubt the inner meaning was clear to the members. They were all aware, Mr. Baker continued, that since October, 1907, the Straits Settlements had passed through what he thought was probably the worst experience of their existence. They had lost millions of money on paper and, on general authority, it was stated that four millions had been lost in cash through speculations in tin at Penang, while three millions were dropped on exchange in Singapore. If the people of the Straits Settlements lost seven millions of dollars how was it thought they were going to pay, except by exporting their money? It was really that loss which was answerable for the £800,000 telegraphic transfer on London, as mentioned in the memorandum of the Treasurer. The great crime was that the banks imported into Singapore a million pounds in gold because the balance in trade called for such a step, and when the reverse condition existed there was an exportation. Then what Chinese lost over speculation, say £800,000, had to be remitted home. The speaker went on to say that he was not defending the position of the banks, but arguing in favour of the system of holding the gold standard reserve in gold instead of in reserve. It will be seen that the question is involved in technicalities and side-issues which we must confess are beyond us, but the position as summarised by the *Straits Times* from the Governor's statement may clear the air and enable the plain reader to understand the situation. The *Times* remarks: It has to be borne in mind that although gold has been made legal tender in the Colony it is not legal tender in the same sense as in England where a creditor is empowered to refuse any other tender than gold beyond a sum of forty shillings. Here, in Singapore, silver is legal tender for any debt to any amount, and there is accordingly no need whatever to have gold in the Colony to meet any demands for purposes of local circulation. It does not, in point of fact, circulate at all in the ordinary sense. The purpose of the gold standard reserve is not to provide a circulating medium in the Colony but to enable business transactions with other countries, especially those which are gold using, to be settled without the heavy losses which were inevitable in consequence of the great variations which take place in the ratio of value between the white and the yellow metals. Now, it is perfectly obvious that for all these international settlements it is quite unnecessary to go to the expense of bringing gold to Singapore and then sending it back again. That, as the Governor pointed out, is a costly business, not unattended with some serious risks. London is the world's Clearing House, and precisely the same benefit is conferred upon the commercial classes by having the reserve there as by having it in the Colony. The benefit is, indeed, greater, for it must be pretty obvious that a system which is

pensive to the Government is expensive also to those who have to pay most of the taxes which it is necessary for Government to impose. But the banks are in a different position. Gold is one of the commodities in which they deal, and they can secure a far higher rate of interest for it at one place than at another under certain conditions—as, for example, those which prevailed in India towards the end of 1906, and in the United States at a later date. If they can get the Commissioners of Currency in Singapore to import considerable stocks of gold, and to deal it out to them which they think fit to make a demand, obviously they will enjoy an advantage, but it is one in which the general commercial community do not participate. The *Times* ends up with this observation: Any experienced business man who considers the matter quite independently will have no difficulty in concluding that he will be as secure from variations of exchange as hitherto, and probably more secure than if the Government failed to take the best possible means of firmly establishing its reserve.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

At 3.30 p.m. to-day the typhoon Black Cone signal pointed downwards and the Drum was hoisted.

THE Ministry of War has decided to establish an arsenal in Taiyuan (capital of Shanxi) and it is stated that Mr. Yang Tsung-jin will be appointed Superintending Engineer.

Lox Kueing, of No. 184, Third Street, received six weeks' hard labour at the Police Court this morning for stealing \$3 from an amah employed at 100, N. 100th Street.

THE Central Government has informed the Viceroy and Governors of provinces that officials who are able to stop the cultivation of poppy in their districts within one year will be rewarded.

Four stowaways on board the s.s. *Suvaric* who tried to obtain a free passage at the expense of the ship owners found out their mistake at the Police Court this morning by being awarded six months each.

H. E. HSU SHIH-CHANG, Viceroy of Manchuria, will leave Mukden, on tour, at the beginning of next month, first visiting Heilungkiang, the most northerly of the Three Eastern Provinces. He will then visit Kirin. It is stated that the tour will occupy about four weeks.

A TELEGRAM was received at Shanghai on Saturday announcing that H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, Grand Master of English Freemasonry, had been pleased to appoint Mr. Bro. Robert S. Ivy, District Grand Master of Northern China, in place of R. Wor. Bro. W. H. Anderson resigned.

AFTER further tests in private at Shanghai Captain Price has found that his airship has not sufficient lifting power and he has decided to increase the size of the balloon by adding eight feet of silk, giving an extra capacity of about 2,000 feet of gas, which is estimated to be ample for the requirements of all weathers.

THE N. C. D. News is informed by the General Agent of the Matchless Motor Car Co. in Hongkong that the company has decided to increase the size of the balloon by adding eight feet of silk, giving an extra capacity of about 2,000 feet of gas, which is estimated to be ample for the requirements of all weathers.

HIS Majesty the King has not been advised to exercise his power of disallowance with respect to Ordinance No. 14 of 1908, entitled An Ordinance to amend The Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, and the Public Health and Buildings Amendment Ordinance, 1903, and to make better provision for the preservation of the Public Health.

AN embroilment case covering the large sum of \$40,000 is to be heard next Wednesday. The defendant in this case is Choy Ming Shek, cashier of No. 74, Bonham Street West, in the employ of the I On Marine and Fire Insurance Co., and the charge against him is the alleged embezzlement of the above sum received by him between the 1st of April last and the 19th inst.

At St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, to-morrow, (D.V.) the Holy Communion will be administered at 8 a.m.; Morning Prayer and Sermon at 11 a.m.; Sunday School at 3 p.m.; Evening Prayer and Sermon at 6 p.m., when the Rev. G. Q. Bunbury will officiate and preach. The offertories will be in aid of the Church Maintenance Fund, which is in debt to the Treasurer and has heavy claims to meet in the near future.

HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to appoint Mr. C. McI. Messer to be Postmaster General, Mr. J. H. Kemp to be Head of the Sanitary Department, Mr. J. R. Wood to be Deputy Registrar and Apportioner, Supreme Court, and Mr. G. N. Orme to be Assistant Land Officer for the Southern District of the New Territories, with effect from 18th inst.

It is understood that the native money market in Hankow is in some danger of a panic, and that several banks have suspended payment. One bank manager is said to have committed suicide. It is reported that the managers of three other native banks have been arrested, in view of this state of affairs the Viceroy at Wuchang has requested the Chamber of Commerce in Hankow to devise methods to remedy matters, in order to avoid the threatened financial crash.

THE "Healthiest" Resport in the Orient is Kobe, Japan. The finest Hotel east of Suez has recently been opened there—the Tor Hotel, Ltd. See circular enclosed with this issue for full particulars, and if you contemplate a trip to Sunny Japan, drop it by you.

INSPECTOR RITCHIE'S PROSPECTIVE RETIREMENT.

Much regret will be felt by a large number of the law-abiding members of the community that one of the most genial and popular officers of the Police Force in Hongkong has decided to retire after an honourable career extending over seventeen years.

First Class Inspector A. Ritchie, who, like many of his immediate colleagues, is the son of the land & cakes, has decided to take advantage of his well-earned pension while yet in the prime of his vigour. Whether he will return to his native country and settle down there for good, or whether he will exercise his special talents in another sphere has not yet, we understand, been determined; but wherever he goes he will carry with him the esteem and regard of his "brother officers," as well as the friendship of the many civilians with whom he has been brought into social contact. So far his arrangements are to proceed to the Homeland on one of the mail steamers sailing in the early part of next month.

CANTON DAY-BY-DAY.

PRISONERS' ESCAPE.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 20th November.

On the afternoon of the 15th instant, while wardens were at their supper, eighteen prisoners in the cells of the Shuntak Magistracy effected their escape by climbing over the wall of the prison. It is feared that the magistrate in charge will receive severe punishment in consequence of this incident.

OPIMUM MONOPOLISTS' PETITION.

The monopolists of the prepared opium farm in Canton have petitioned the authorities requesting them to modify the rule that opium smokers are allowed to buy opium only once a day in the regulations recently promulgated for opium licences, and to allow the licensees to buy opium more than once instead, so that they may not suffer heavy losses. So far, the officials have not yet given a reply to the petitioners. It is not likely that the officials will acquiesce in the petitioners' request and alter the rule as is desired.

FIRE.

Three days ago, half-a-dozen shops were totally gutted owing to an outbreak of fire in the port of Kowloon through the careless use of kerosene oil. The shops burnt down chiefly dealt in bamboo and wooden articles; when these combustible goods were in the height of the conflagration, fears were entertained by the local residents that a large portion of the port would be destroyed, as the north wind was then blowing very hard.

A WISE PRECAUTION.

It is ascertained that H. E. Viceroy Chang summoned the Director of the Military Department and impressed upon him the critical state of affairs at the present moment. H. E. instructed the director to take every precaution against any emergency, although everything is quiet in this city.

FOR needlessly wounding a buffalo by cutting its forelegs and back with a chopper, Li Chuen Tsai, a coolie residing at Tai O, was sentenced to three months' hard labour at the Police Court, this morning.

A REPORT has been received by the Central Government from the local authorities at Chaochiao-koh (Kalgan), the gate-town on the line of the Great Wall, to the effect that a large number of Huangchais suddenly raided that town last week and made off with considerable plunder. It will be remembered that about four weeks ago a Major was captured, presumably by the same band in the vicinity of Kalgan, while on his way from Peking to Mongolia to purchase remounts for his squadron. It is reported that mounted bandits are worse in that section this year than ever before, and that people cannot go out either by day or by night without fear of being attacked.

PRINCE Arthur of Connaught, who has received from King Manuel of Portugal the Orders of Christ and Avis, will, doubtless, bring the green ribbon of the latest Order into greater prominence than it has hitherto enjoyed in England. As a rule, when you see that ribbon in a buttonhole, you may take it that the decoration adorns a Brazilian. The original institution dates back to the thirteenth century, when it incited Portuguese chivalry to do battle with the Moors in the Iberian Peninsula. The Knights of Avis, in those days, had a chaucery of their own in the city, from which the Order took its name. When the Moors were done with, the Knights went, too. The present decoration was revived by Queen Maria, in the eighteenth century; and when, later on, Brazil proclaimed its independence, it nevertheless by far acknowledged the fatherland as to retain the Avis for republican decorative purposes.

THE following is from the *New York Press*:—The patient complained of insomnia. "You must get an alarm clock at once," said the physician. The patient started, "I mean it. What time do you wake usually in the night?" "Two o'clock lately." "Set the alarm for fifteen minutes before two. As soon as it strikes, get up, dress for the day and take a walk of not less than two miles. Do not go to bed again that day under any circumstances, nor take a nap, even sitting in your chair. The next night set the alarm at a quarter past two. You will sleep until it wakes you. Get up as before, and take another two-mile walk. The third night you can venture to set your alarm clock at three. Repeat the walk. If you are not cured by that time you will be a more difficult case than any I have had heretofore, but if the habit of lying awake is not broken, begin back at a o'clock again and repeat. Another cure for insomnia is sitting up with the sick. Just bind yourself to sit up all night with some good, strong, invalid, and if you are not permanently healed of insomnia before morning you may come back here and I will not charge you anything for another prescription."

Cafe Weismann.

PROBLEM FOR RESTAURANTEURS.
DRINKS WITHOUT MEALS TADDOED.

The prosecution brought by the police against Mr. H. Fiedler, licensee of Cafe Weismann, L.J., for the retail of intoxicating liquor at the premises in Queen's Road Central, and which was adjourned from a previous hearing in order that certain points submitted by Mr. Goldring might be considered by the magistrate (Mr. J. R. Wood), was resumed this morning.

It will be remembered that at the original hearing Mr. Goldring (for the defence) urged that there were certain peculiarities in the precise terms of the licence held by his client which were not to be found in those granted to other licensees of the same grade. The Court, on re-assembling to-day, declared that the licence held by the defendant was on all fours with those of others in a similar character, but convicted the defendant of a contravention, the penalty for which was assessed at \$10.

The evidence given by two witnesses for the police was, in effect, that they had entered the cafe and called for liquor, without specifying that they required food as an accompaniment. The drink in question was beer, which was supplied to them, which they consumed on the premises. The police representatives detached the labels from the bottles which had been served to them and held them as evidence against the manager of the restaurant.

The cross-examination of the leading witness was in the following terms:—
Mr. Goldring—I suggest to you before you set down your story a man to the "boy?"

Witness—No.
I put it to you, you did?—I did not.
Neither you nor anyone else?—No.
I put it to you that before you called for drinks you were asked if you wanted cakes?—Yes.

You went into the dining room, did you not?—Yes.

And was supplied with drinks there?—Yes.
The defendant, on being called to the stand, said that he was licensee of Cafe Weismann. The principal object of the business was to supply meals. There were regular hours for meals, after which no liquor was served. Liquor was only served at meals. There was no bar on the premises.

The Court—What are your orders to your servants?—Not to supply any drinks without meals.

Did you give any instructions to your servants?—Oh, yes, I did.

What did you tell them to do?—If a man came and sat down at a table and did not call for a meal he was not to be served with drinks. Have you ever turned any customers away?—Yes.

You have?—Oh, yes.

A "boy," Chae Chik, in defendant's employ, and who has charge of the dining-room, stated that the orders he received from his master was to supply drinks only to those who called for food also. On the 3rd November three men called shortly before noon. It was then fifteen minutes. They sat near a table. Witness showed them the menu. "They did not look at the card," he added, "but asked for beer. I asked them what kind of beer they wanted. They said, 'Kupper.' I said I could not serve them, but one of them said it was 'all right.'"

Witness placed the glasses on the table, some cakes, and then opened the beer.
The Court—Is that the usual way you do it?—Witness—No.
Why?—Because one of the men "nodded his head."

Mr. Goldring submitted that on the evidence his Worship could not convict. The drinks, he contended, were supplied in the dining-room. The first idea of this "boy" was that the men had come in for meals. When they refused he placed a number of cakes before them, and then supplied the drinks. There was no breach committed; for meals had been supplied. This case was different from that of Bertolone's as his client had an eating-house licence and the other had not. The offence, if his Worship was going against him, was not a serious one, and he asked that the summons be dismissed.

His Worship imposed the fine as stated above.

KOWLOON PHASANTS ALARMED.

GANG OF ROBBERS MAKE A RIDICULOUS HAUL.

A despicable attack on a poor farmer, who with his family occupies a humble and unostentatious abode on the Kowloon City Road, was committed by a band of armed robbers shortly after eight o'clock this morning.

According to the information received from one of our correspondents, the cowardly gang made a desecration of the isolated little habitation, where the small family was engaged in the usual early morning task of disturbing the forlorn-looking offshoots of what was once alleged to have belonged to the potato tribe. With fierce gestures and in tones which were entirely to the point, our correspondent says, the marauders surrounded the household, put the fear of death into the hearts of the helots, who made Marathon race time to the nearest thickets and breathed at slow intervals of one minute per break. The visitors pursued the even tenor of the way; incidentally they demolished the door which had neither lock nor latch to start with, made a forcible entrance into what the Chinese owner termed his "castle," and proceeded to search for the valuables possessed by the worthy occupants, who, as we have said, were otherwise engaged for the moment. The robbers eventually marched off with "great" booty, consisting of a few articles of discarded clothing, an abominable bracelet, and a "destone" ear-ring. The gang thereupon made off.

After receiving the above communication inquiries were made at police headquarters by a *Hongkong Telegraph* representative. It was ascertained that the facts of the case were essentially correct, and that one of those who is believed to have been concerned in the operations of the gang has been arrested.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

PEKING AFFAIRS.

FOREIGN MINISTERS' SYMPATHY.

THE LEGATION GUARDS.

[By courtesy of the "Shenung Po."]

Peking, 20th November.

The Foreign Ministers in Peking propose to go into mourning for twenty-seven days.

The members of the Diplomatic Corps propose to repair in a body, on the 21st inst., to the Palace and there pay their last respects to the mortal remains of the departed Emperor and Empress Dowager.

The proposal by the Foreign Ministers to remove the Legation Guards to Taku has not been abandoned.

It is proposed by the Central Government that, on the occasion of the Accession to the Throne of the new Emperor, Pu-yi, Imperial clemency will be shown in the Edict by the granting of free pardon to prisoners for certain offences.

Grand Councillor Yuan Shih-kai proceeded to the Palace to make arrangements for the funeral obsequies and has not since left the precincts of the Imperial building.

The Prince Regent hesitates to take upon himself the entire responsibility of administering the affairs of State; he generally confers with Yuan Shih-kai and seeks his advice.

It is rumoured that Prince Su, Siu-ki, and Duke Tsai will be appointed to the Grand Council.

The death of Prince Ching has given rise to all manner of rumours.

Honolulu, 20th November.

The Chinese residents in Honolulu have received with much grief the news of the death of His Majesty Kwang Su, and are discussing a date wherefrom the entire community will go into mourning. They have telegraphed to Peking for Court news in the present crisis.

NAVAL REORGANISATION.

ENGLAND AND AMERICA'S PROFFERED ASSISTANCE.

[By courtesy of the "Shenung Po."]

Peking, 20th November.

H. E. Wu Ting-fang, Minister to Washington, and Lord Li, Minister to the Court at St. James's, have telegraphed to the Waiwupu that both the United States and England are willing to assist China in the reorganisation of her Navy.

[Reuter's.]

The Near Eastern Question.

LONDON, 19th November.

The Powers have renewed their representations to Serbia, recommending her to preserve peace and to withdraw troops from the Austrian frontier.

Serbia replied complaining of insults to Serbian royalties in the Austrian press, and theatres, and of the military preparations of Austria.

Later.

Turkey has presented the Powers its programme for a conference.

The programme comprises seven points, viz., the revision of the status of Rumiella, also of Bulgaria, including the question of tribute; the status of Bosnia and Herzegovina; compensation to Serbia, and Montenegro; the abrogation of Articles 23 and 61 of the Berlin Treaty, the modification of the capitulations and the revision of Article 29 as desired by Montenegro.

Bishop Awdry's Successor.

The Bishop of Dorchester succeeds Bishop Awdry in Tokio.

The Opium Question.

Colonel Seely, in reply to Mr. Taylor concerning the report of the Opium Commission, said the Straits report had not yet been received.

In regard to Hongkong, the Governor's modified proposals were now on the way. In the meantime it had not been possible to take action.

Record Cricket.

219 RUNS FOR NO WICKETS.

TO-DAY'S MATCH.

In this afternoon's Match of the Hongkong Cricket Club's "B" Team against Kowloon on the former's ground, Messrs. T. F. Pearce and R. Hancock created a mild sensation by the unprecedented score of 146 and 73 runs (not out) respectively. The bowlers were Messrs. Mulin, Brewer, Dixon, Libenud and Major E. R. L. Chitty.

We are indebted for the above to the Hongkong Cricket Club, through whose courtesy we have been enabled to publish the eminently satisfactory score at the time of going to press.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by correspondents in this column.)

A COMPLAINT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH," SIR.—An old resident complains of the cillious manner in which European owners of dogs allow these pests to run, bark and attempt to attack chair bearers. I look upon this foolish amusement on the part of these Europeans as a mean and most uncalled for action.

European owners of these faithful animals should know that these dogs, overcome with excitement at seeing their masters at the tiffin hour, etc., should be prepared to check them when they extend their excitement to attacking chair bearers and street coolies. —Yours faithfully,

T. P. H.

Hongkong, 20th November, 1908.

FRAUDULENT TRADE-MARKS.

LETTER TO ROBE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. The Kobe Chamber of Commerce has received a communication from Mr. Oshikawa, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, calling the attention of the Chamber to the piracy of foreign trademarks by Japanese manufacturers and merchants, reports the *Japan Chronicle*. The letter, which has presumably been addressed to all the Chambers of Commerce in the country, was accompanied by specimens of forged labels, and reads in substance as follows:—

"The extension of the sphere of business enterprise has of late intensified the evils of competition. As a result some merchants are known to be freely indulging in fraud and manufacturers imitate the inventions of others or produce spurious articles. There are some who are always trying shamelessly to diminish the profits of others for the sake of temporary personal gain. There are not a few who venture to infringe the right of others to industrial property by imitating or pirating inventions, trademarks, &c. These are tendencies to be deplored in regard to the future of the Empire's industry. It is to be particularly noted that complaints have been frequently made by foreigners against the infringement of their trade-marks or trade-names by Japanese. While some of these complaints cannot be regarded as legitimate in the eyes of the law, there are many actions on the part of Japanese business-men which have a strong appearance of being illegal and fraudulent. These actions not only damage the credit of Japanese business men, but tend to affect the national prestige of the Empire. The annexed specimens of forged trade marks illustrate only the most glaring examples. From these the rest can be inferred. From the first, the Patent Bureau has been diligently scrutinising all applications for registration of trade-marks in order to detect forgeries, and applications for trade-marks which are calculated to impose on the public have been rejected. It is to be hoped that all business-men will exercise redoubled care, warning each other and making it a principle of business to fortify their credit and strive to promote commerce and industry by legitimate means."

OPIMUM-SMUGGLING.

SIR FREDERICK'S REPORTED REPRESENTATIONS.

The writer of Native Notes in the *N. C. D.* News says:—The Governor of Hongkong, according to native papers, has sent a dispatch to the Viceroy of the Liangkwang provinces through the British Consul-General at Canton, complaining of the slackness with which the prohibition against the exporting of opium to Hongkong is enforced. The Governor states that in August last there were no less than eight cases of Chinese smuggling opium into Hongkong from Kwangtung. This, he says, is evidently due to the remissness with which the exportation of opium is prohibited by the Chinese authorities. In conclusion (according to the report) his Excellency asks the Viceroy to instruct the Customs authorities concerned to take strict measures to prohibit the traffic.

SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILS.

American (Siberia) 23rd inst., 5 a.m.
English (Devonport) 26th inst., at noon.
German (Prinz Waldemar) 9th prox.

The P. M. S. S. Co.'s s.s. *Siberia*, with the American Mail, will be due to arrive in Hongkong on 23rd inst., at 5 a.m.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Empress of India* left Vancouver, A.M., on 19th inst., for Hongkong via the usual Ports of Call.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Kawaguchi Maru*, European Line, left Shanghai for this port on 20th inst., and is expected here on 23rd inst.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Yokohama Maru*, Australian Line, left Nagasaki for this port on 20th inst., and is expected here on 24th inst.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Kaga Maru*, American Line, left Kobe for this port via Moji and Shanghai on 23rd inst., and is expected here on 26th inst.

The N. Y. K. s.s. *Tokio Maru*, Bombay Line, left Bombay for this port via Colombo and Singapore on 17th inst., and is expected here on 21st prox.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s s.s. *Penarth*, left Singapore for this port on 19th inst., at 3 p.m., with the outward English Mail, and is expected here on 26th inst., at noon.

THE LATE EMPEROR.

KUANG SU'S REIGN.

The news of the death of the Emperor Kuang Hui, which we were able to announce on Saturday morning has now been confirmed, but the "official" date of the event is given as November 14, 1908, at five o'clock in the afternoon, writes the *N. C. D. News* editorially. In view of the traditional reticence the apparent discrepancy between the first intimation of the Emperor's death and the official notice does not evoke surprise. Up to a late hour yesterday (15th inst.) the local Chinese authorities were still without information on the subject, and it is possible that there had been an intention in the highest quarters to withhold the news for some days. When, however, the information leaked out, it would become necessary not only to admit the accuracy of the report, but also to avoid the semblance of having suppressed the fact. On the other hand the condition of the Emperor may have been such that already on Friday the end was known to be inevitable and news of his actual death was at once put in circulation. At present the later history of the Peking Court during the last few days can only be the subject of conjecture. It is reported that the Empress Dowager is also seriously ill, and her failing health at the moment when it became necessary to arrange for the succession to the Throne may well have prompted the desire to keep the Emperor's death from the public knowledge, until the new order had been firmly established. If we are to believe Chinese statements, uncertainty regarding the succession has prevailed up to the last moment. Prince Ch'ue, third son of Prince Ch'ue and the Emperor's next brother, has now been appointed Regent and his eldest son Pu Yi, a child of two years of age, has been summoned to the Palace, presumably as Heir-Apparent. Common report had previously singled out for this position Pu Lun, a grandson of the eldest brother of Prince Ch'ue, the Emperor's father, and there is reason to believe that his claim commands no little support. The course of events, therefore, during the next few days depends much on the skill with which the Empress Dowager has laid her plans and on the ability of the Regent, with or without her moral assistance, to hold his own among rival factions.

As we look back on the reign of KUANG HSU to-day, it is difficult to decide the position that poverty will assign to it in the annals of the Empire. Of one thing alone, unfortunately, can we be certain, and that is, that however prominently the events of this period will stand out, it can never be written of the Ruler "*Quidrum pars magna fuit*." During the short period, when he succeeded in gathering up in his own hands the reins of government, he showed promise of leading China on a new path. He surrounded himself with the most enlightened men of the country, reform was in the air and edicts of a far-reaching character followed fast one upon another. There was no more enthusiastic advocate of the new ideas than the Emperor himself, but his inclinations were ahead of those of the nation at large. The movement created the inevitable reaction; Kuang Hui had omitted to carry with him in his zeal for reform one whose personality was more potent than his own. When the Empress Dowager re-asserted herself, her nephew's brief spell of authority was at an end. From 1898 he remained merely the nominal occupant of the throne, taking as the years passed, as much by necessity as of his own volition, a gradually diminishing part in the affairs of government. More recently he would seem to have been content in the possession of naught but the silent attributes of royalty. Nevertheless his reign must be associated with the dawn of a new era.

THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA. In China; and, in the absence of some commanding figure, who by the force of his own character shall compel China into the path of rapid progress, a charitable posterity may remember that Kuang Hui had identified himself closely with the nation's first abortive effort. Judged by the standard of his imperial stewardship, the late Emperor will have to admit that he has failed to maintain intact the great heritage upon which he entered as an infant thirty-three years ago. But while China's hold upon neighbouring nations has been weakened or entirely withdrawn, in that time, she has experienced a marked access of national consolidation. Her internal organization, it is true, leaves much to be desired; she is still a house divided in many respects against herself; but, at least, she is beginning to feel a sense of imperial unity without which there can be no hopes of real progress.

For some time to come all eyes will be directed towards Peking. In view of the unassuming rôle played in recent years by the Emperor his early death may be the means of saving the country from a serious upheaval. The sudden withdrawal of the firm hand of the Empress Dowager at a time when the occupant of the throne was unequal to the burden of imperial rule would have constituted a grave danger. By the selection of a strong man as Emperor or as Regent.

THE RIVALRIES OF OPPOSING FACTIONS may be kept within bounds, while the incentive to disorder—a vacant throne—will be lacking. Even now, with the illness of the Empress Dowager coinciding with the Emperor's death it may be open to question whether the plans for the succession have been sufficiently matured. Success, however, will go to the part with the big battalions, and as there are signs of the outward and visible signs of the reform movement, carefully collected in many thousands, it will be remembered, in and around Peking at the present moment—there is reason to hope that China will pass through the change of rulers peacefully. If this should prove to be the case and if the destinies of the Empire are committed to enlightened hands, while the forces of reaction unsupported from above melt away in confusion and disgrace, China, indeed, stands on the threshold of an eventful era. To the credit of Kuang Hui it can then be said that, though he lacked the strength to help on the cause, he was not found among those who deliberately set their faces against the march of progress and reform.

A THRONLESS ASIATIC POTENTATE.

The second volume (which has recently appeared) of the Indian Empire section of the "Imperial Gazetteer," contains an historical chapter upon the European period which summarizes all the principal events from the Portuguese down to the close of Lord Curzon's rule. In the concluding pages of this epitome there are some curious pervasions of facts which deserve to rank as "mock pearls of history" by reason of their disregard for the accuracy which one is accustomed to associate with compilations of this character. One of them occurs in the paragraph relating to the Tibetan occurrences of four years ago, wherein it is said that the Dalai Lama abdicated and that the Youngusband protocol was arranged with his successor. All the text-books on the subject, as well as the official reports, are unanimous in asserting that the potentate, whose temerity caused our intervention, fled from Lhasa before our forces reached that interesting city, without going through the formality of relinquishing his rights as a ruler. The only useful relic of the Lama's domination discovered by us was his official Seal, which was subsequently affixed, certainly without consent, to the Treaty accepted by the administrative Council which was summoned for the reconciliation of the differences between India and Tibet. The militant pontiff had become an invisible entity until at a later date it was revealed that he had sought Russian protection.

Our occupation of Lhasa occurred when events in the Far East already pointed to hostilities between Russia and Japan, and consequently the Dalai Lama was unable to obtain the benevolent assistance from St. Petersburg upon which he relied, either for his restoration to Tibet, or the establishment of a schismatic Buddhist Church under the Tsar's protection. And the conclusion of the Anglo-Russian agreement, a year ago, temporarily extinguished a remarkable intrigue which had been a dangerous feature in Asiatic politics for at least a decade previously. Antagonising the Russian duplicity which had been the chief cause of his misfortunes, the Dalai Lama quitted the vicinity of their frontier some time ago, and for the past year or so has been the guest of the Chinese Government at a famous Buddhist monastery a few hundred miles from Peking. The Son of Heaven and his councillors have found the thronless potentate a most costly and inconvenient visitor, and for months past much Celestial subtlety has been expended in efforts to tempt the Lama to the capital, with a view to arranging for his restoration to Tibet under conditions which may limit his temporal ambitions and prevent him from again menacing the peace of Eastern Asia. The Lama, after receiving satisfactory assurances of his sanctity and personal liberty would not be imperilled, reached Peking a fortnight ago and although recent telegrams have informed us that the negotiations with him have been impeded by his non-observance of certain canons of the inflexible etiquette of the Court, these hindrances will be smoothed over, and we shall hear presently that the Buddhist Pope is on his way to Lhasa.

Although our altruistic diplomacy has resulted in the renunciation of the most useful provision of the Youngusband protocol, and last year's engagement with Russia excludes both of us from meddling with Tibetan affairs, India is commercially interested in the future of China's restored provinces, and will follow coming developments with considerable attention. Since the day of Warren Hastings many endeavours have been made to establish friendly relations between ourselves and the Kingdom of the Lamas, and to protect and promote the frontier trade in which many of our subjects are engaged. But all these attempts have been futile, and the most recent, as we know, led to the hostilities which ended in the temporary occupation of Lhasa. The new trading regulations which have just been agreed to by the Chinese and Indian Governments will, if properly worked, stimulate commercial developments on the frontier where, despite existing difficulties, these provisions are intended to solve, there are already indications of enhanced commercial activity. But with our arch-enemy, the Dalai Lama, re-installed at the capital from which he fled four years ago, there may be a recrudescence of the old troubles unless the Chinese maintain their suzerainty over Tibet more efficiently than in the past. For until our intervention the Lhasa potentate, of whom the present is the thirteenth incarnation, had been practically independent of Peking for a couple of centuries, and the Celestial overlordship has deteriorated into a political fiction. Sixteen years ago, the Dalai Lama, who possesses strong temporal ambitions, emancipated himself from this nominal control by dissolving the State Council which administered Tibetan affairs, and concentrating all power in his own person. After completing this revolution, which seems to have been effected without any serious opposition from Peking, he opened communications with St. Petersburg with the avowed object of securing Russian recognition and protection for his new Asiatic Kingdom. Thereafter events developed rapidly, as both the Home and Indian Governments were fully informed of the negotiations between Lhasa and the Czar's capital, and merely awaited a favourable opportunity for administering a quietus to a projected alliance which would have menaced the security of our North-Eastern frontiers. That occasion presented itself six years ago, when repeated violations of our border by the Tibetans, and their interference with the trading privileges arranged under an older treaty, had exhausted the patience of the Government of India, and strong remonstrances were addressed to Lhasa. But the insolent potentate refused to receive the Viceroy's letters, and all attempts to arrive at a peaceful settlement of our differences with the border Kingdom were frustrated by the open hostility manifested towards us by this priestly autocrat. Our advance over the

border was followed by his temporary obliteration from Tibetan affairs, and his re-appearance, in the guise of a chastened and much modified personality, will be regarded with mixed feelings in India. For he is by no means the feeble potentate imagined, as his years are but six and thirty, and he is said to be remarkably active, both physically and mentally, for an ascetic, whose principal occupation should be contemplative absorption in the religious mysteries typified in his person. However, time will show whether his recent misadventures have modified these ambitions which brought him into collision with our ex-Viceroy, and, moreover, unless the reports which reach us of the Celestial activity in consolidating their government, over restored Tibet are absolutely misleading, the Chinese are taking such measures as will effectually prevent any future ebullitions by the Dalai Lama in the direction of temporal independence. —*Bombay Gazette.*

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Messrs. Erich Georg & Co.'s weekly share report of to-day's date reads:—
The volume of business transacted during the week under review has been but small. Rates, on the whole, have ruled steadily to firm for most stocks; in fact, in some few isolated cases showing a slight improvement, but the reluctance of holders to sell, at present rates, has prevented larger sales. The sterling demand rate of exchange on London closes 12. 8 1/2, while rates on Shanghai are 11s. 7 1/2 for a Bank T/T, and 11s. 7 1/2 for a three days' sight Private Bill, the rate in Shanghai on this for a three days' sight Private Bill being 11s. 7 1/2. Bar-silver in London is quoted at 11/16d., and Consols at 104 7/16. The Bank of England's rate of discount remains at 4 per cent., and the private market rate of discount at 2 1/2 per cent.

Bank Shares.—A few small lots of Hongkong and Shanghai have been sold at 18 1/2 to 19 1/2, closing with buyers at 18 1/2. The London rate, having advanced to 12s. 10d. od. Nationals have buyers at 15 1/2.

Life Insurance Shares.—Unions sold and are wanted at 57 1/2. China Traders can be placed at 57 1/2. Other stocks under this heading are unchanged and without sales.

Fire Insurance Shares.—Hongkong sold and are obtainable at 130. Chinas sold at 120 and 121, and are wanted at latter rate.

Shipping Shares.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats sold at 59 1/2, closing with sellers at latter figure. Indo-Chinas are weak with sellers at 55; Shanghai reports buyers at 11s. 38, while in London the quotation has dropped to 11s. 10d. od. for preference, and 11s. 10d. od. for deferred shares. China and Manilla, and Douglases are unchanged. Star Ferries sold at 54 for the old, and at 55 for the new issue. Shell Transport sold at 45, and have buyers at 45 1/2. The London rate is 46s. 9d. od. Unions Waterboats have been and continue in request at 57 1/2.

Mining Shares.—Charbonnages are wanted at 58. Ruins sold at 57 to 57 1/2, closing with buyers at 57 1/2; the *Hongkong Telegraph*, 61 1/2 inst., prints a very interesting article about this mine, clipped from the *Mining Journal*. The crushing for the four weeks ended 7th instant, resulted in 1,077 ounces of smelted gold being obtained from 5,566 tons of ore crushed; to this has to be added 174 ounces of gold obtained from plates at Bukit Komau, also 109 ounces of gold obtained by cyanide treatment during the last three months, making a total of 1,360 ounces of gold. Chinese Engineering and Mining Shares are weak at 11s. 15.

Docks, Wharves, Godowns, &c.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks sold and have sellers at 52. Fenwicks, as well as New Amoy Docks, are unchanged. Shanghai Docks have dropped in the north to 11s. 77. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have sellers at 54s. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharves have dropped to 11s. 150.

Land, Hotels and Buildings.—A small lot of Hongkong Lands fetched 93, but more shares are on offer. Shanghai Lands are quoted at 11s. 116. Hemphrys' Estates sold and have buyers at 59 1/2. Other stocks under this heading are unchanged and without any transactions.

Cotton Mills.—Shanghai quotes: Ewas 11s. 67, Internationals 11s. 58, Laon Kung Mow 11s. 75, and Sooychees 11s. 24. Hongkong Cottons are quiet at 110. The 13th annual meeting of shareholders in the International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Limited, will be held on 25th instant, until which date the transfer books have been closed. The report for the year, ended 30th September, 1908, has just been received from the north, and we shall refer to same in detail in our next issue; the net profit amounted to 25,190,95, which, together with 11s. 85,190,5, carried forward from last year, makes a total of 11s. 110,710,01 at credit of profit and loss account. The directors propose to write off 11s. 77,338, place 11s. 25,000 to reserve fund and carry forward the balance of 11s. 8,172,01.

Sundry Manufacturing Companies.—Hongkong Electric sold at 8. Dairy Farms are quiet at 121. Green Island Cements have been done and are on offer at 170. Other stocks under this heading have not been dealt in and rates are unchanged.

Miscellaneous.—China-Borneo sold at 110, but is placed now at 101. Langkats had another big jump, and are quoted 11s. 80 in Shanghai according to a wire received just now; a fourth and final dividend of 11s. to per share for the current year, together with a bonus of 11s. 10 per share, has been declared, payable 15th proximo, making in all 11s. 50 per share for the financial year; the transfer books will be closed from the 8th to the 15th proximo, both days inclusive. It is further announced that oil has been found on the Company's concession at Sonagaj Rajah in Assam.

Warrants have buyers at 59 1/2. An interim dividend of thirty cents per share on account of the current year, will be payable on 27th instant, transfer books closing from 24th to 30th instant, both days inclusive. (If other stocks under this heading there is no change and no sales have been reported.)

To-day's Advertisement.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, ON WEDNESDAY,

the 25th November, 1908, at 2.30 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Voeux Road, corner of Ice House Street, A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF JAPANESE CURIOS.

Comprising:—
HAND-PAINTED KAGA and NAGOYA TEA SETS, SILK-EMBROIDERED SCREENS, HAND BAGS, MONEY PURSES, WALL HANGINGS, FINE IVORY CARVINGS, GOLD and SILVER CLOISONNE BOWLS, VASES and TEA SETS, KINKOSAN, SATSUMA, YAMAGUCHI, INOENSE BURNERS and TEA SETS, BRASS and BRONZE CARVED VASES, BOWLS, LANTERNS, BUDDHAS, FLOWER POTS, MAKUDZU, IMARI and ARITA WARE, GOLD DAMASCENE BANGLES, BUTTONS, MOTHER-OF-PEARL INLAID SCREENS and PANELS, &c. &c. &c.
Catalogues will be issued.
TERMS.—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 21st November, 1908. [1009]

THE UNREST IN TIBET.

In obedience to Imperial instructions the Viceroy of Szechuan has asked the Provincial Treasurer of that province and the Customs Treaty of Chungking to send Tls. 350,000 to H. E. Chao Erh-feng (High Commissioner of Frontier Defences in Szechuen, Tibet and Yunnan), for the maintenance of the Chinese troops engaged in restoring peace in Tibet.

The Dalai Lama has instructed the Paoshen Lama to use all possible means to assist the Chinese authorities in restoring order in Tibet and to punish the rebellious lamas.

The Dalai Lama is announced to be leaving Peking at the end of this month.

The Dalai Lama has requested the Chinese Government to allow him to float a foreign loan for the construction of a railway from Chumbi to Lhasa and for the development of the mines along the route of the railway. It is believed that the Tibetan Pontiff's proposal will be sanctioned by the Chinese Government.—*N. C. D. News.*

THE SUGAR INDUSTRY IN JAPAN.

THE AMALGAMATION SCHEME.

The *Japan Chronicle* says:—As already reported the Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company is preparing to absorb the Oriental Sugar Refining Company, of Formosa. The *Osaka Asahi* notes that the sugar-refining industry in Japan has made wonderful progress and has now almost entirely checked the import of refined sugar. The industry is now in fact suffering from over-production. In consequence the Dai Nippon, Kobe, and Yokohama Sugar Refining Companies have formed a Trust among themselves for the sale of sugar, at the same time restricting the output in order to maintain an equilibrium between supply and demand. For the same purpose the Dai Nippon has absorbed the Nagaya Sugar Refining Company. The sugar industry in Formosa is generally believed to have a very promising future, and the demand for shares of sugar-refining companies has increased. The *Osaka Journal* points out that the industry in Japan has now developed to the extent of over-production, its future success therefore depends entirely on the production of cheaper crude sugar. The sugar-refining companies are all exercising their energies towards the securing of sugar-cane plantations and the economical operation of their mills. The Dai Nippon Sugar Company has obtained the services of a Dutch engineer, who has had great experience in sugar production in Java and Cuba, as superintendent engineer for its Formosan mill. The mill is now being constructed under his direction and is expected to begin operations before the end of this month. Anticipating the success of this mill, buyers have appeared for the shares of the company. The Oriental Sugar Refining Company has been most successful in establishing sugar-cane plantations, and it is for this reason that the Dai Nippon is preparing to absorb the Formosan company. The Dai Nippon, which has obtained the supremacy in the production of refined sugar, is anxious to secure the same position in regard to the crude sugar and so hold sway over the sugar industry in Japan. Mr. Sakawa, President of the Dai Nippon, who is now in Osaka, is privately negotiating for the purchase of the Oriental Sugar Company with the directors, who are now in Osaka. Notwithstanding that sugar-refining is suffering from over-production, Mr. Sakawa seems to be optimistic regarding the outlook for the industry. This gentleman is said to have remarked that in Great Britain, which is the largest sugar-consuming country in the world, the average consumption of sugar per capita for the population amounts to 70 lbs. a year. The United States comes next followed by France, Germany, and Japan in order. The consumption of sugar is a mile-stone measuring the advance of the standard of living in each country. Sugar is consumed in the making of preserves, condensed milk, and other industries more than in the manufacture of cake or confectionery. It should not be difficult to increase to 700,000,000 lbs. the annual consumption of sugar in Japan, which now amounts to 500,000,000 lbs. He holds that with the large quantity of sugar which may be produced in Formosa, the outlook for the sugar industry in Japan is promising.

Intimations.

NETHERLANDS LLOYD OF AMSTERDAM AND BATAVIA.

THE Undersigned, having been appointed AGENTS of the above Company, are prepared to accept Fire and Marine Risks at Current Rates. CRUZ, BASTO & CO., PROSPECT, 11th November, 1908. [1098]

THE IMPERIAL COLONIAL CLUB.

THE above Club is formed chiefly for COLONIAL and OVERSEAS MEMBERS; it is situated at No. 8, Piccadilly (the centre of Chisland), opposite the Grosvenor Club. The Club has a Bridge Section, Reception Dining, Billiard Room, Smoking Lounge, Reading Room and Library. Ladies are eligible as Members. Entrance Fee, Five Guineas. Annual Subscription, Five Guineas. Further particulars from THE ORGANISING SECRETARY, 84, Piccadilly, W. London, 19th August, 1908. [1099]

To Let.

TO LET.

GODOWN No. 54, DUNDRELL STREET.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st November, 1908. [1090]

TO LET.

A HOUSE in KNOTSFORD TERRACE, Kowloon.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st November, 1908. [1095]

TO LET.

HATHERLEIGH, CONDUIT ROAD.
A HOUSE in WONG-NEI-CHONG ROAD.
A HOUSE in RIFON TERRACE.
OFFICES in YORK BUILDING.
GODOWNS in PRATA EAST, BLUE BUILDINGS, and No. 163, DES VOEUX ROAD next to the Hongkong Hotel.
FLATS in MORETON TERRACE.
No. 10, DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, 1st Floor.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st November, 1908. [1096]

Hotel.

KOWLOON HOTEL.

"Nemo me

Impune Lacessit."

ST. ANDREW'S DAY

SCOTCH DINNER

ON

MONDAY,

the 30th Nov., 1908.

SPECIAL MENU.

The 105th M. L. I. Band will play

Special Selections of Music

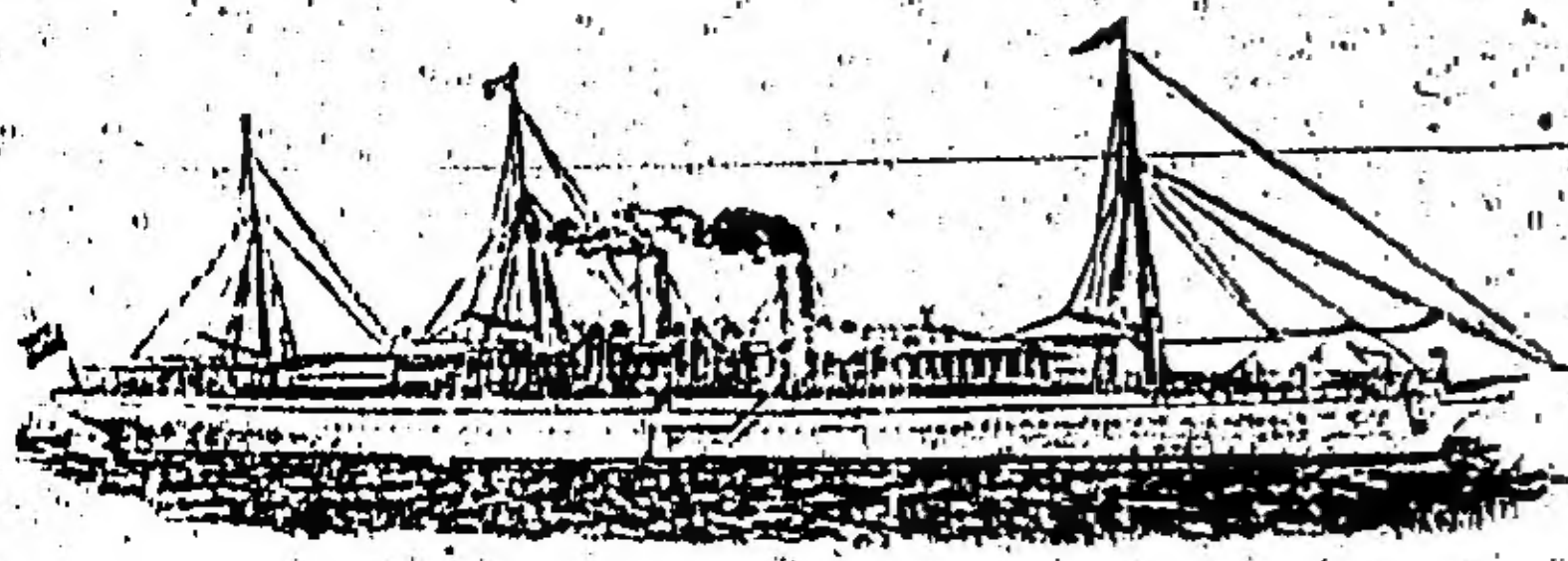
during and after Dinner.

O. E. OWEN,

Proprietor.

Hongkong, 19th November, 1908.

Shipping—Steamers.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY.'S
ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

Luxury—Speed—Punctuality.

The only Line that maintains a Regular Schedule Service of under 12 Days across the Pacific is the "Empress Line." Saving 5 to 10 Days' Ocean Travel.

12 Days YOKOHAMA to VANCOUVER. 21 Days HONGKONG to VANCOUVER

PROPOSED SAILINGS. (Subject to Alteration).

R.M.S.	Tons	LEAVE HONGKONG	ARRIVE VANCOUVER
"EMPRESS OF CHINA"	6,000	SATURDAY, Nov. 28th	Dec. 10th
"MONTEAGLE"	6,163	WEDNESDAY, Dec. 9th	Jan. 2nd, 1909.
"EMPRESS OF INDIA"	6,000	SATURDAY, Dec. 19th	Jan. 8th
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN"	6,000	SATURDAY, Jan. 16th	Feb. 5th
"EMPRESS OF CHINA"	6,000	SATURDAY, Feb. 13th	March 5th
"MONTEAGLE"	6,163	TUESDAY, Mar. 2nd	Mar. 26th

"EMPRESS" steamships will depart from Hongkong at 4 P.M.
S.S. "MONTEAGLE" at 12 Noon.

THE Quickest route to CANADA, UNITED STATES AND EUROPE, calling at SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, (through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN), KOBE, YOKOHAMA, and VICTORIA, B.C. connecting at VANCOUVER with a Special Mail Express, and at QUEBEC, with the Company's New Postal "EMPERESS" Steamships, 14,500 tons register, thus providing a comfortable and speedy through route to Europe.

Hongkong to London, via Canada Atlantic Ports or New York £71.10.
Hongkong to London, Intermediate on Steamers, and 1st Class on Railways... £40. ... £42.

First-class rates to London include cost of Meals and Berth in Sleeping Car while crossing the American Continent by Canadian, Pacific direct line.

R.M.S. "MONTEAGLE" carries "Intermediate" Passengers only, at Intermediate rates, affording superior accommodation for that class.

Passengers Booked through to all points and AROUND THE WORLD.
SPECIAL THROUGH RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.

For further Information, Maps, Routes, Hand Books, Rates of Freight and Passage, apply to

J. W. GRADDOCK, General Traffic Agent for China, &c.,
Corner Paddar Street and Praya, Opposite Blake Pier.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

For	Steamship	On
TIENTSIN VIA CHEFOO	CHENGSHING	SUNDAY, 22nd Nov., Daylight.
SHANGHAI	TUNGSHING	TUESDAY, 24th Nov., Noon.
SHANGHAI	FOOSHING	WEDNESDAY, 25th Nov., Noon.
S'GAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA-FOOKSANG	FRIDAY, 27th Nov., 1 P.M.	
MANILA	YUENSANG	FRIDAY, 27th Nov., 4 P.M.

RETURN TOURS TO JAPAN.

OCCUPYING 24 DAYS.

The steamers *Kaitang*, *Namang* and *Fookwang* leave about every 3 weeks for Shanghai and Yokohama returning via Kobe (Island Sea) and Moji to Hongkong, providing a stay of 5 to 6 days in Japan if passengers leave the steamer at Yokohama and rejoin at Kobe.

These vessels have all modern improvements and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

A duly qualified surgeon is also carried.

Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Yangtsze Ports, Choochoo, Tientsin & Newchwang.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE MATHESON & CO., LD.,
General Managers.

Shipping—Steamers.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM

FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL, AMERICAN and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"OCEANA,"
Captain T. H. Hild, R.N.R., carrying His Majesty's Mail, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY, &c., on SATURDAY, the 28th November, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports in connection with the Company's S.S. *Moldavia*, 9,500 tons, from Colombo, Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is secured before departure from Hongkong.

Silk and Valuable, all Cargo for France, and Tea for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into the Mail steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London, other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed via Bombay by the R.M.S. *Oceana*, due in London on 9th January, 1909.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply to

K. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 14th November, 1908.

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS, LTD.

FOR LONDON, HAMBURG AND ANTWERP.

THE Steamship

"DENBIGHSHIRE" will be despatched for the above Ports on or about the 30th November, 1908.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th October, 1908.

THE AMERICAN AND ORIENTAL LINE.

FOR BOSTON AND NEW YORK

(With liberty to call at the Malabar Coast).

THE Steamship

"TUDOR PRINCE,"

Captain Macdonald, will be despatched for the above Ports, on or about SATURDAY, the 14th December, 1908.

For Freight, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 11th November, 1908.

NORTHERN PACIFIC LINE

Connecting at Tacoma with

NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all

Overland Common Points in the United States of America and Canada, and also

for the principal ports in Mexico, and Central and South America.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR

VICTORIA, B.C. AND TACOMA, VIA

MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

Steamer Tons Captain To Sail

Kumeric 6,332 Cowley Dec. 17

Inveric 4,789 Boyd Jan. 14

Bovoric 4,445 Mathie Feb. 11

These steamers are specially fitted for the

carriage of Asiatic Storage passengers.

PARCEL EXPRESS TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

For further Information, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,
General Agents.

Queen's Buildings,
Hongkong, 10th October, 1908.

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE New Twin Screw Steel Steamers

"KWONG TUNG" Capt. H. W. WALKER.

"KWONG SAI" Capt. R. S. CROW.

Leave Hongkong for Canton at 9 every

evening, (Saturday excepted).

Leave Canton for Hongkong at 5.30 every

evening, (Sunday excepted).

These Fine New Steamers have unequalled

accommodation for First Class Passengers and

are illuminated by Electricity. Electric Fans

in First Class Cabins.

Passage Fare—Single Journey.....\$5.

Meals.....\$1.25 each.

The Company's Wharf is situated in front

of the New Western Market, opposite the old

Harbour Office.

YUEN ON S.S. CO., LD.,
and
SHIU ON S.S. CO., LD.,
No. 5, Queen's Road West,
Hongkong, 10th Nov. 1908.

Shipping—Steamers.

HONGKONG, NEW YORK &
BOSTON.AMERICAN-ASIATIC STEAMSHIP
COMPANY.

FOR NEW YORK ONLY.

S.S. "BRAEMAR"

On MONDAY, 23rd November, at 5 P.M.

For freight and further information, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, 18th November, 1908.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSEAGERIES MARITIMES.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship

"DUMBEA,"

Captain Boyer, will be despatched for the above

Ports on or about MONDAY, the 23rd instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

P. NALIN,
Acting Agent.

Hongkong, 20th November, 1908.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAIYANG,"

Captain Hodgins, will be despatched for the above

Ports, on TUESDAY, the 24th inst.

at 11 o'clock A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAFFRAI & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 20th November, 1908.

EASTERN-AND-AUSTRALIAN-STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

(Calling at Port Darwin and Queensland Ports, and taking through Cargo to Adelaide, New Zealand, Tasmania, &c.)

THE Steamship

"ALDENHAM,"

Captain St. John George, will be despatched as

above on THURSDAY, the 19th December, at Noon.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted

for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber

which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions,

Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.

The Steamer is installed throughout with

the Electric Light.

A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon

are carried.

—N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of

passengers the steamers of the Company have

electric fans fitted in staterooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 20th November, 1908.

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE

TO NEW YORK,

VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL,

(With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast.)

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

FOR NEW YORK:

S.S. "WRAY CASTLE" 1st Dec.

For Freight and further information, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,
Agents.

Hongkong, 4th November, 1908.

For Sale.

THE RAPION MAY NOW ALSO BE OBTAINED

IN DRAGON (TASTELESS) FORM.

DEEP CURE NO PAIN.

MARVEL UPON MARVEL.

NO SUFFERING.

NOW DESPAIN.

THE RAPION is a new and powerful

remedy for all kinds of rheumatism, neuralgia,

and all other painful affections of the

system. It is a powerful and reliable

remedy for all kinds of rheumatism, neuralgia,

and all other painful affections of the

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and all other painful affections of the

system. It is a powerful and reliable

remedy for all kinds of rheumatism, neuralgia,

PANAMA CANAL IN TERSH PARAGRAPHS.

During the past four years 185,150 barrels of cement have been used in the canal work.

The work of excavation is done for the most part by 101 steam shovels. The shovels have an average output of 991 cubic yards per day, or 25,761 cubic yards per month. The shovels have a working day of eight hours.

The quartermaster's department is responsible for the delivery of food supplies on the Isthmus. During the hot spell in the month of June the cold storage plant shipped 5,608,283 pounds of supplies in 38,309 packages.

The Isthmus, though a comparatively orderly place, is orderly only with the protection of an efficient police. The monthly list of arrests usually gets up to 500, and the idea of disorder is increased by the fact that from 30 to 50 of the prisoners are women.

Of the 6,100 gold employees on the Isthmus only 205 are women. The Isthmian canal commission employs 187 women and the Panama railroad 18. The average salary paid to the women employees is \$73.99. The highest salary paid any woman on the Isthmus is \$175 a month, and the lowest \$24 a month.

There are approximately on the Isthmus in the employ of the commission and Panama railroad 44,000 persons, of whom about 6,000 are Americans. The normal working force each day is shown from the rolls of July 1st, when there were actually at work 30,541 employees—25,388 men for the commission and 5,153 for the railroad.

The government of the Isthmus has also gone into the washing business, with an elaborate laundry and a drying house at every working camp. The drying houses, however, have nothing to do with the laundry, being intended for the sole purpose of drying garments in the rainy season of persons who were obliged to work in the wet.

Last June, as a normal month both in expenditures and rapidly of excavation, may be taken as typical. In that month 3,039 cubic yards were removed at a total expenditure during the same time of \$1,891,600.55. Of this sum, however, \$1,545,602 was spent on material and supplies, and is contributed toward the permanent fixtures of the zone.

From the time the Americans began a systematic investigation on the Isthmus in 1904 up to July, 1908, 36,121 miles of borings were made to determine the geological structure along the line of the canal. A hole has been sunk at every kilometer from Gatun to Pedro Miguel, and extensive borings in addition have been made at the sites of the locks.

The estimated cost to the government

Internations

Don't Worry.

WHY WORRY?

**CONSULT
PHAROS.**

THE MYSTIC AND MODERN ASTROLOGER

YES, WHY WORRY?


About your Business, Health, Pleasures, Friends Abroad, your Love Affairs and Chances in Life.
Yes, Why Worry? Consult Pharos. He is able to advise you, Console you and Warn you. His ambition in this life is to help those in trouble, and must not be classed with the run of Palmists who use their *Supposed Gift* to make money. Pharos is independent of this. Willing and able to help all in trouble and relieve their anxiety to the best of his ability and experience.

PHAROS HAS A MESSAGE TO YOU.
You are anxious to put your son to a business that will prosper. Will your daughter be happy in her married life? You are in love. Have I made a wise choice in mate? Shall I take a partner into my business? Should I be wise in going abroad? All these questions Pharos can answer and advise by the aid of astrology. Why not put this to the test. Send P. O. value 1/- and addressed, stamped envelope, to—
PHAROS, DEPT. 14, 45 UNION STREET, GLASGOW
with your Birth Date, Full Name and Title and Town or County of Birth if possible, upon receipt of same Pharos will send you a written Test Horoscope.
With the above Pharos will send you FREE a WRITTEN FORECAST OF YOUR FUTURE.

PICTORIAL POSTCARDS.

100 ASSORTED Scotch, English & Irish Views, etc. for 1/6.
1,000 " " " " " " Actresses, Songs, Animals, Lovers and Comic Cards for 15/-.
English and Continental Actresses hand tinted real glossy Photographs 15/- per gross.
CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR CARDS well ASSORTED parcel.
100 Cards for 5/- Value 1d, 3d, 4d, 6d each.
500 ASSORTED Cards for 10/-.
1 gross Jewelled Cards for 9/-.
Foreign or Colonial Stamps not accepted. Kindly send Money Order.

BRITANIA POSTCARD CO., 45, Union Street, Glasgow. [3]



EYES RIGHT!

**N. LAZARUS, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN,
CORNER OF D'AGUILAR STREET AND QUEEN'S ROAD.**

WILL test your eyes free of charge, and if they are wrong will put them right.
Lenses Ground. All kinds of Repairs. Spectacles for all requirements.
Ask, or write, for Illustrated Booklet on "Defective Sight,"—free.
LONDON, GALTOUTA, SHANGHAI,
John Street, Bedford Row, W.C. 59, Bealuck Street 566, Nanking Road
Hongkong, 4th March 1908. TSS

F. BLACKHEAD & Co.,

SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS,
COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTORS
AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.
GROUND FLOOR,
ST. GEORGE'S BUILDING,
HONGKONG,
SOAP AND SODA MANUFACTURERS.

SOLE AGENTS FOR
HARTMANN'S RAHTJENS' GENUINE
H. COMPOSITION RED HAND
BRAND, HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT
Daimler's Patent Motor
LAUNCHES,
&c., &c., &c.
Sole Agents for
FERGUSON'S SPECIAL ORCA-I
and
P & O. SPECIAL LIQUOR SCOTCH WHISKY, &c.
EVERY KIND OF
SHIPS STORES AND REQUISITES
ALWAYS IN STOCK
AT
REASONABLE PRICES.
Hongkong, 7th March, 1908.

FURNITURE WAREHOUSE.

LI KWONG LOONG & CO.,

司公隆廣李
CABINET-MAKERS AND ART DECORATORS,
from Shanghai, has re-opened their
FURNITURE STORE
at
No. 39, DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.
The only Shop in Hongkong with this name.

WHERE HIGH-CLASS FURNITURE
of every description can be made to order in any design required.
Have been patronised by the Hongkong Club, Hongkong Hotel, Telegraph Co., Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Firms and other leading Establishments in the Colony, to whom reference can be made as to the Superior Workmanship and Materials of the Furniture, &c., supplied.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., write as follows:
"We have pleasure in stating that Mr. LI KWONG LOONG furnished the Annex to our Dispensary and gave us every satisfaction."
(34.) A. S. WATSON & CO.

ORDERS promptly attended to, and **CHARGES** most moderate.
AN INSPECTION INVITED.
Hongkong, 6th August, 1908. [33]

Telephone: 482. **Telegrams:** "Cyclometer."

TYPEWRITERS

New, Re-Built and SECOND-HAND

We sell all makes without prejudice.

RE-BUILD & REPAIR

STOCK RIBBONS, CARBONS, & C

MACHINES EXCHANGED.

MANUSCRIPTS TYPED. STENO-TYPISTS

DRAGON CYCLE DEPOT,

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